MBER
49

AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

CA. 8267 C-267 L.T. 11-15-37
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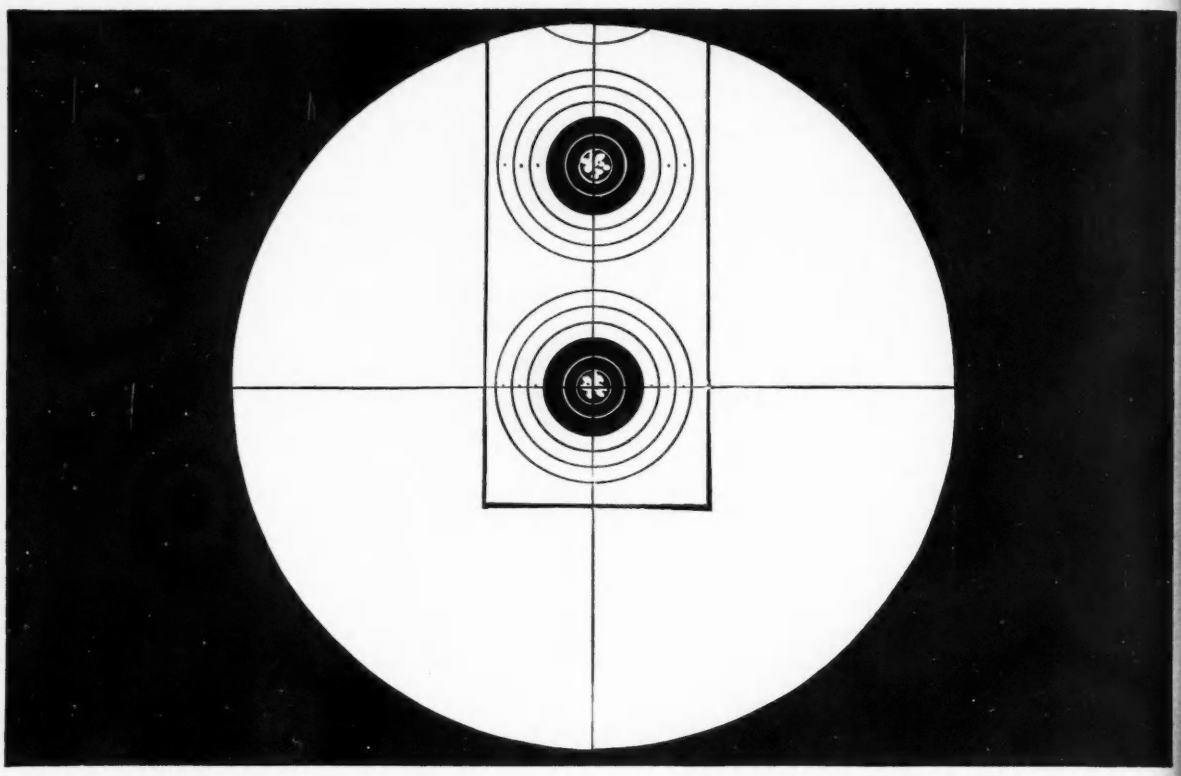

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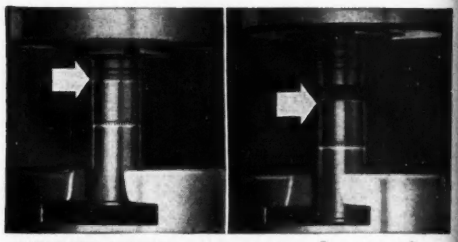

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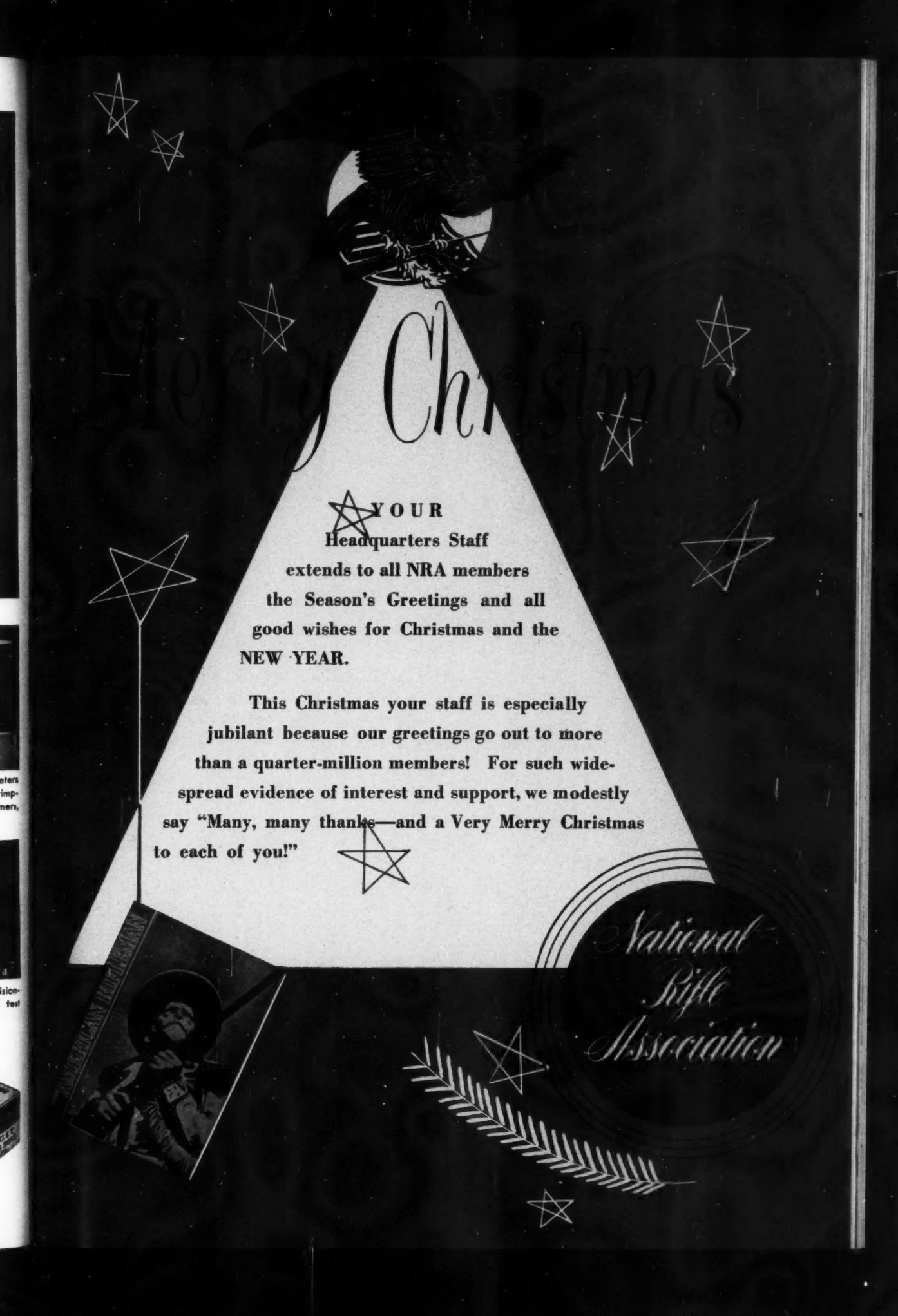
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This Christmas your staff is especially
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"Greatest development since the invention of the telescopic sight"

Read what Al Barr says about the B&L Hunting Sight

...from the Dope Bag, American Rifleman, September, 1949

NEW B&L HUNTING SCOPE AND MOUNT

Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. are now in production on the new variable power B&L hunting scope and B&L mount which were announced sometime ago. In addition to the Balvar, variable in power from 2½ to 4, there is the Baltur fixed 2½ power and the Balfor which is a fixed 4-power scope. None of these scopes have internal windage and elevation adjustments, as these are provided in the new detachable B&L mount.

We have been using a Balvar in the B&L mount for sometime. Both scope and mount meet all exacting requirements and specifications for a combination of this kind. Optically the Balvar, when set for 2½ or 4 power, is second to none. A constant zero was maintained when using the combination on a Model 70 with the scope set at either 2½ or 4 power. Likewise, the constant zero was maintained when removing and replacing the scope between shots. The mount design makes a constant zero possible, as the scope is held securely in a V formed by two pairs of accurately machined steel cones. Windage adjustment is in the front base and elevation is in the rear base. Each graduation represents approximately one inch in both windage and elevation adjustments. To make adjustments for elevation or windage, the locking caps on the right side of the scope mount are loosened so that the coin-slotted screws on the left side which are connected to the steel cones can be moved. At present the mount is made for the Winchester model 70, Remington model 721, Springfield, Enfield and FM Mauser rifles. These mounts fit on rifles like the models 70 and 721 rifles which are already drilled and tapped for a receiver sight and for a rear scope base.

After removing the scope nearly a hundred times and replacing it on the rifle, the finish on the scope was worn through where it contacts the machined steel cones. We understand the condition is being corrected by controlling the anodizing process when coating the light metal alloy used in the scope tube.

The Balvar weighs only 7½ ounces, and the mount complete weighs six additional ounces. The scope with standard one-inch diameter tube is 11¼ inches long. Normal eye relief for both the 2½ and 4 power is 4 inches.

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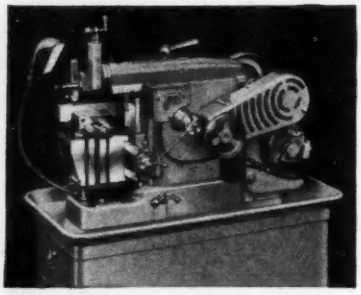

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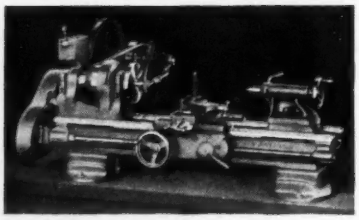

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Vol. 97, No. 12 • December 194

A Soldier Speaks — an Editorial

Spraygun Pressure Test — by James R. Bright
Newest weapon in the gun designer's constant fight for greater safety

How's This for Stance? — by Lee E. Echols

Buffalo Hunt — by Charles C. Niehuis
Bagging the monarch of the prairies is not what it used to be

New Life for Old Barrels — by Clyde Baker
Some basic information for the home workshop enthusiast

Second Annual NRA Convention
A special supplement reporting on your 1949 Denver meeting

Neuhausen 47/8 Pistol — by Capt. Reginald Hawkins

You Can't Cure 'Buck Fever' — by Bud Jackson

First U. S. Repeaters — by Lt. Col. B. R. Lewis
New light on a long-standing arms-collectors' mystery

.22 Hi-Power Loads — by Barr and White

Save That Trophy! — by Elmer Keith
A little care in the field means perfect mounts later on

Choosing a Sporter — by R. C. Wolf
Some random notes on a gun-owner's perennial dilemma

Springfield Patent Troubles — by Gordon Lyle

Food for Thought — by George G. Ferren
If noise bothers you while you're shooting, try this system

COVER

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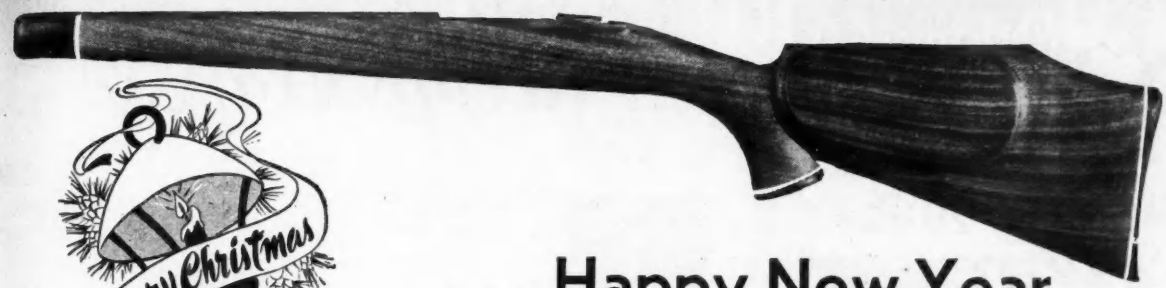

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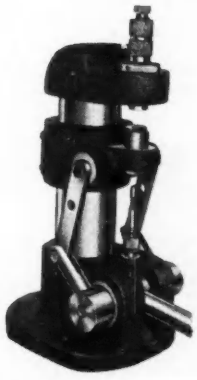

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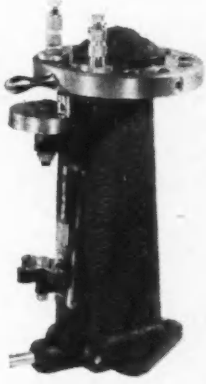

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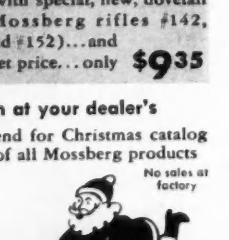

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InCidenTa/Ly

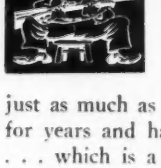
As we said last month, the RIFLEMAN is a lot older than most folks realize. One way of expressing that age is in the number of issues of *The Rifle, Shooting & Fishing, Arms & the Man* and THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN that have come off the presses since Arthur Gould founded the magazine in May of 1885. Unless we've slipped up in our figuring, this December 1949 issue is the 2,119th published since then. Stacked in bound volumes, those two-thousand-odd magazines make a pile over twelve feet high.

What we're getting at is the enormous amount of still useful information that is tied up in the old files of the RIFLEMAN. Mention a subject even remotely connected with gunpowder or projectiles and you'll find it at least once in that twelve-foot stack. If it is something of general interest, it will have been discussed many, many times in the magazine's sixty-four years of existence. Those old RIFLEMAN copies form a sort of *Encyclopedia Brittanica* of the shooting game.

There's a catch, of course. As far as we know, only one complete set of the RIFLEMAN is in existence. Appropriately enough, it is a treasured possession of the NRA. Other than this, the nearest to a complete set is on the shelves of the Library of Congress. Their stack is only about eleven feet seven inches high, because volumes one, two and three are missing. So is volume 23. (If we ever find duplicates of those missing volumes, we're going to present them to the Library of Congress. Watching over the only set in the world gives us a mighty uneasy feeling sometimes, but we figure that if the Library of Congress *and* the National Rifle Association have complete sets, we can both stop worrying.)

Lacking a complete set of RIFLEMAN bound volumes in every home (1,100 pounds, F.O.B. Washington, D. C.), it's up to us to provide the next best thing . . . which is the periodic re-coverage of basic shooting data, so that each new crop of RIFLEMAN readers will have available the material they could otherwise get only through long experience, out of expensive shooting books, or out of those old copies of the RIFLEMAN.

We aren't at all apologetic about this policy of periodic 'brush-up' courses in the elementary phases of the shooting game. Unless we are away off base, these refresher articles (sometimes new articles on old subjects, sometimes frank reprints from our own back numbers) are one of the services we're obligated to give our newer readers. We feel that we have an obligation to the young fellow who gets a membership (and his first gun) on his birthday, just as much as we have to the dependable old timer who's been with us for years and has long passed the need of being retold the facts of life . . . which is a long-winded way of telling you why we're republishing Clyde Baker's 1942 article on cleaning up rusty old gun barrels in this issue. You'll find it on page 18.



If you have Baker's classic book, *Modern Gunsmithing*, you're familiar with it already. The same applies if you are one of those people who can remember what was on pages 23, 24 and 25 of the December 1942 RIFLEMAN. That's beside the point; it isn't for you anyway. We're reprinting it for the young shooter who never heard of Baker's book, who hasn't the money to buy it, and who wasn't a RIFLEMAN reader back in 1942. We think it, along with a lot of other 'basics' we'll be republishing in forthcoming issues, is the sort of information our new shooter wants and should have. Unless we hear some mighty howls from a gang of our old timers, he's going to get it.

JS

RIFLEMAN WORDS • • • •

Each month this 'lexicon for shooters, is devoted to a few words peculiar to the shooting game which may be puzzling to the newcomer.

BOLT ACTION—A type of rifle action in which the opening and closing of the breech is accomplished by a manually-operated rotating breechblock which travels backward and forward in the receiver, in line with the barrel. Typical bolt actions are the Mauser and Springfield. Locking is accomplished by right-angle lugs on the bolt which slide in recesses cut into the receiver walls.

CORE—The material inside the hard metal jacket of a bullet; ordinarily lead.

CUPRONICKEL — A copper-nickel alloy once widely used as a bullet-jacket material. Because of its tendency to deposit lumpy metal fouling, it has largely been replaced by various copper-zinc alloys.

DRIFT—Movement of a bullet to left or right of the line of bore, due to wind or the effect of rotation imparted to the bullet by the spiral rifling grooves.

FOULING—Foreign matter in the bore of a firearm. Ordinarily refers to powder residue, gummy matter and light rust. Lumpy metal deposited from bullet jackets is usually called metal fouling or leading. Heavy rusting is called corrosion.

GROUP—The term applied to a series of shots, usually five or ten, fired at a target with the same point of aim and sight setting. Group size at a designated range, measured from center to center of the widest shots, is the usual measure of relative accuracy with rifles or cartridges. Such accuracy is often expressed in minutes of angle, which equals (approximately) one inch at 100 yards, two inches at 200, etc.

LAPPING—Polishing the bore of a firearm with a tight lead slug and mild abrasive in order to remove rust pitting or tool marks and slight imperfections of manufacture.

OPEN SIGHT—A rear sight having a notch open at the top instead of an aperture or 'peep' through which front sight and target are aligned.

RAMROD—A length of wood or metal of less than bore diameter, used to seat bullets in a muzzleloader. Today the term is often used to designate a cleaning rod.

RANGE—The distance from firing line or firing position to target; the farthest distance a given bullet will travel; a place where target shooting is practiced.

RECOIL—The backward thrust of a firearm caused by the action of the powder gases, which start the bullet forward through the barrel and at the same time force the weapon back against the shoulder of the firer. Commonly known as 'kick', recoil is measured in foot pounds.

SELF-LOADING—Autoloading; semiautomatic. Any firearm which utilizes recoil or gas pressure to cock the weapon and load the following round. Commonly but incorrectly called 'automatic'.

SLING—Fabric or leather strap attached to a gun by which it is carried and/or steadied while in firing position.

TRIGGER GUARD—The metal loop which partially protects the trigger of a weapon from accidental movement.

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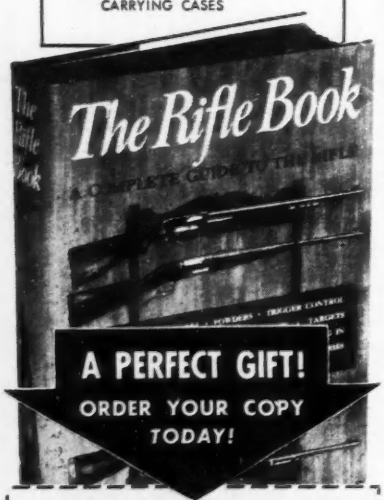

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COUPLE OF BUCK HUNTERS

Westwood, Calif.

Editor:

For years the controversy has raged as to who starts the fires in the mountains during hunting season. No answer is proposed in this letter, but I do want to extend the thanks of the Forest Service to a 'couple of buck hunters'—and to the many others who do as they did. The story goes like this:

One morning last week the ranger on the Magalia District of the Lassen Forest called us here on the Almanor District and said two deer hunters had reported that they'd put out a fire near Humbug Summit in the Little Grizzly area just southwest of Lake Almanor. I went up the following day to see if I could find it and—if so—make sure it was out. Sure enough—about a mile southeast of Little Grizzly Guard Station and right along the road I found the remains of a fire, probably caused by a carelessly flipped cigarette butt into some rotten wood. The fire had been well spaded up and then buried, and on top of the small mound of earth, which was all that was left of the fire, there was a rough cross of fir branches. On this cross there was a piece of cardboard bearing the following epitaph: 'Here lies the remains of a baby forest fire—out by courtesy of a couple of Buck Hunters.'

So—we extend our thanks to you, fellows, and we hope that you and your good example will help convert those who are careless with fire in our forests.

W. R. C. Beaty
United States Forest Service

KEITH, PRO AND CON

New York, N. Y.

Editor:

For Heaven's sake, don't let Elmer Keith read that lead article in the October Rifleman or the poor chap will . . . realize that the biggest and toughest game on earth have been killed with such little pipsqueaks as the .275 Mauser and the .256 Mannlicher. It would be a shame to disillusion the poor fellow.

Milford Baker

Mio, Michigan

Editor:

I started hunting over sixty years ago, I believe before Elmer Keith was born, and I was raised on wild meat for it was the only meat to be had. But Elmer Keith has crowded so much experience into his lesser years that I consider him the foremost authority on big-game rifles in the U. S.

Like me he has become sick of finding dead game animals strung all over the woods wounded by incompetents armed with pipsqueaks. (Keith's) articles are . . . practical and are based on experience.

Give us more of Elmer Keith. His articles will do more for the novice than all the superscientific articles ever published.

Hiram J. Stevens

Walla Walla, Washington

Editor:

It's a hell of a note that the editors of the Rifleman continuously find reason to publish the adolescent slaverings of the . . . armchair critics of Elmer Keith. Isn't it almost time Keith received at least an iota of the encouragement he has earned but never had, especially from the Rifleman?

F. L. Vennum

● *The* Rifleman *is, and will remain, an open forum on shooting topics with an equal for both sides of any argument. As far as credit to Keith is concerned, it was the* Rifleman *that first published his work. Keith's initial appearance in print, "Bullet Experience on Big Game", was in the April 15, 1925 issue. In the quarter-century that has followed, Keith's name has appeared more often than that of any other contributor.* Rifleman *editors still consider Keith one of the best-informed of American big game hunters, and will continue to find space for his views, along with those of writers who hold to the other side of the bullet weight versus velocity problem.—Ed.*

JUST A YOUNGSTER

Temple City., Calif.

Editor:

The more I look at the well-posed picture of Mr. Whiskers on the front page of the October Rifleman, the more I wonder how old a cowboy, now 85, would be during the Civil War that ended 84 years ago as of April 1949. Quite a youngster, I should say.

E. T. Hodge

VOTES FOR HOGUE

Spokane, Wash.

Editor:

Preston J. Hogue (Ricochets, October) may find some comfort in knowing that his cry for position shooting in outdoor small bore competition is not alone in a wilderness of belly shooters. Not only do several of us in this club feel as he does but we are trying to do something about it. Last year in our fall tournament we scheduled a ten-shot offhand match with the score to count in the aggregate. There was some wailing and gnashing of teeth but just about everyone fired the match and, believe it or not, it made very little difference in the final outcome. The ones who had consistently shot the scores prone, with a few exceptions, were the ones who were tops in the aggregate. This fall we went a few steps further and made the offhand match a 20-shot match. We also scheduled a four position match, five shots in each position at 50 yards. It was included in the aggregate. We had as many entries in these matches as in any of the other belly matches and while a little griping was heard we also heard considerable comment in favor of this departure from the usual program of cut and dried events.

Mr. Hogue has been shooting a little over a year and I some over twenty but we see eye to eye on this subject along with a whole lot of others.

F. S. Noone

Newport News, Va.

Editor:

Many of us feel that the present outdoor requirements for outdoor local tourna-

and outdoor classification favors the prone shooter at the expense of the position shooter. If classification based partly on standing scores were used, it would stimulate position shooting much more than writing articles has ever done. I feel that many non-registered matches would blossom into registered events if the requirements for the 120 shots would permit, say, 40-shots prone and the remaining 80 shots in any other approved position.

JOHN W. COURTNEY, JR.

'49 NATIONALS

Indiana, Pa.

Editor:

I am one of many of your readers prevented by circumstances beyond his control from attending the National Rifle and Pistol Championships and, this being the case, waited most eagerly for the October magazine. After snatching it from the hands of the postman what do I find? A bare page with three pictures which is merely a recital of the top scores.

Who-all was there? Who blew up? How was the weather? How were the accommodations? Were there any parties? What was decided or said at the NRA meeting? Who spoke? How many entries? How many DNF's? Why? Any change in policies? Any plans for future Regionals or Nationals?

Probably a thousand feel as I do in being very much interested, and what happens? Just the top scores. A vitamin pill in place of a banquet. How about a little detail?

JAMES W. MACK, JR.

Merced, Calif.

Editor:

I want to extend my heartiest praise for such a fine magazine that so well covers everything of interest to rifle and pistol shooters.

But, why so skimpy an account of what went on at the Nationals? We, who couldn't get there, would like a full story of all that took place with a complete list of shooters, their scores and some pictures.

HAROLD E. DILLEY
Lt. Col. USAF (DC)

Yreka, Calif.

Editor:

The editorial staff should certainly feel wonderful for the beautiful job . . . of reporting the National Small-bore and Pistol Matches. Last year was bad enough but this is really an anticlimax.

PAUL R. DODGE

.250-3,000 LOADS

San Antonio, Texas

Editor:

I have read with interest your comments about the .250-3,000 Savage cartridge. It may interest you to know that over our years of experience in range testing (more than 10,000) scope-fitted rifles we have come to the conclusion that the best groups can be made at 100 yards with the Swift, and the next best with the .250-3,000. The Hornet will sometimes make tight groups, but it is too erratic. Our shooting is all done with factory ammunition.

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A Soldier Speaks . . .

"In a possible future war we must again be on guard against 'psychological warfare' by the enemy to soften up the will to resist, plus a greater measure of 'fifth column' activity than has been witnessed in modern history.

"We, and our allies, must remember that a people long disarmed and untrained in the efficient handling of weapons are easy victims of an aggressive enemy. Political oratory notwithstanding, men will not fight for their liberty, barehanded and untrained, against an enemy who has convinced the world that he is well equipped and trained. It is of the utmost importance that the American citizen never become 'gun shy', but that he be encouraged to own and learn to handle weapons so that his confidence in himself as a defender of his personal liberty shall never falter. A people so indoctrinated do not easily fall under the spell of that kind of psychological warfare which seeks to set up a defeatist complex in the minds of its intended victims.

"The fifth column must, in the very nature of things, always be a relatively small fraction of the people. The need for secrecy and intense discipline demands that the fifth column or subversive group operate with the irreducible minimum of personnel. Hence, the chances of effective action by fifth column groups is almost nil unless the great body of loyal citizenry is convinced that resistance is useless, is disarmed or is unfamiliar with their weapons. Modern history, with respect to nazi and communist conquests, is so filled with this lesson and is so fresh in the memories of this generation as to need no documentation by me.

"The point is that from the standpoint of both internal security and external security we make a tragic mistake when we discourage, legislatively or otherwise, effective training in the use of small arms by reputable Americans of all ages from 16 to 60. Some well meaning people have urged the general registration with the police of all privately-owned firearms as a means of curbing crime and fifth column activities. These people are poor students of history. They have forgotten what happened in Norway and the low countries in 1940, and later in the iron curtain countries. The always available town hall registration lists of arms owned by patriots were one of the greatest comforts to first the nazi and later the communist fifth columns as they moved into city after city from 1939 to 1949. In spite of strict government control of the manufacture, distribution and possession of firearms, the fifth column groups made sure that they themselves were powerfully, though illegally, armed. It is my earnest hope that it will never happen here. We must strengthen our civilian defense by building more rifle and pistol ranges for community use, more high school and college ranges, and by providing more small-arms training for every American. At the same time we must oppose uncompromisingly the passage of restrictive firearms laws, or any other law which will make the American's right to defend his home and his homeland subservient to the 'by-your-leave' control of some local or federal policeman.

"If war starts again, we are going to have a lot of boys lying in the mud with rifles."

These are the words of one of America's great soldiers—one who, like all truly great soldiers, is also a student of history and a philosopher—Lieutenant General Robert L. Eichelberger. We commend them to all soldiers as food for thought in a field which they too often have considered as being purely civil, purely civilian in its activities and applications.

C B Lister

Spray Gun PRESSURE TEST

BY JAMES R. BRIGHT

The managing editor of "Product Engineering" tells of industry's newest weapon in the constant fight for greater gun safety

FEW SHOOTERS are aware of the ingenious methods used by firearms engineers to develop better guns. The most amazing of these is probably the least known, but it holds some intriguing possibilities. It's called the brittle-coating method of experimental stress analysis.

This jawbreaking mouthful is not as hard to understand as it is to pronounce. A glance at the illustrations will quickly show its wonderful possibilities. You might say that it is a way of visualizing the maximum strains that occur during firing. The technique gives the engineer a picture of forces working on every part of the gun. Furthermore, this 'picture' shows these forces at the moment of greatest intensity, even though these maximum forces may have occurred at different instants in different areas of the gun.

The tremendous efforts of design engineers during the war, particularly in the aircraft and automative industries, brought the application of this technique to hundreds of problems in mechanical design. Wherever metal, or any other material, is subjected to a load or force, this new design tool may be used to find the weak spot.

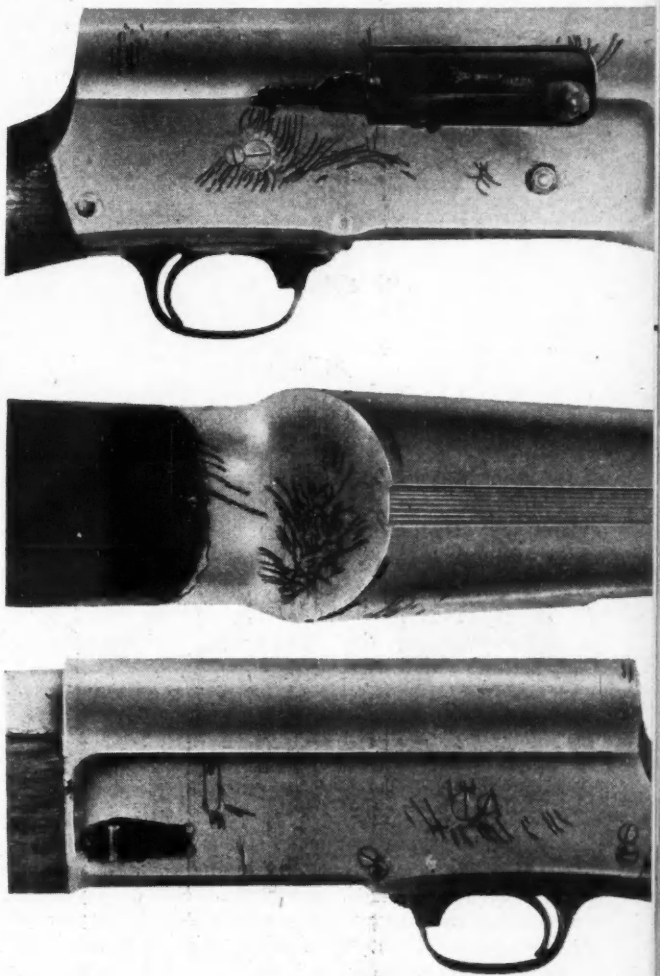
The idea behind brittle coating is this: cover the part with a brittle paint that, when dry, will crack if the surface on which it is painted should strain (i.e., stretch) more than a certain amount. The strain does not have to be permanent to leave its record on the coating. A temporary stretching of the metal, if it is great enough, will crack the coating.

The easiest way to picture this effect is to dip a rubber band in molten paraffin and then stretch it. What happens? Obviously, the paraffin is not as elastic as the rubber, and therefore it cracks at random spots along the length of the rubber band. If you coat the back of your straightened forefinger with paraffin, you can test this effect. As you bend your finger, the paraffin will crack. Watch where it cracks! Most of the cracks are around the knuckle. This is because the strain, which is the engineer's way of saying 'the amount of stretch', is greatest over the knuckle.

We can learn something else about brittle coating from this example. Where is the strain the greatest? Obviously, where the cracks are largest and most closely spaced. Therefore, on a piece of metal such as a receiver, it is usually a safe bet that the greatest strain will eventually occur where the most cracks are located. This is generally the same spot where the cracks started first. Roughly speaking, then, the principle of brittle coating is that the area with the most cracks is the weakest spot.

Paraffin, of course, is not satisfactory for brittle-coating tests. The coating must be highly sensitive to small strains, and consistent in its action. The real stuff, "Stresscoat", looks like yellow lacquer, and smells to high heaven because of the carbon disulphide present.

There is a variety of "Stresscoat" brittle coatings; each is for use under certain conditions. First, there are coatings that crack with different amounts of strain. For instance, one coating will crack whenever it is stretched more than 0.0013 inch per inch. Another kind will crack when stretched more than 0.0020 inch per inch. We'll explain their use later. Second, there are coatings to perform in the above manner under different temperature and humidity conditions. Unfortunately, the coatings are extremely sensitive to changes in atmospheric conditions. In other words, it won't crack at the same amount of strain if temperature and humidity are not as specified.



In these photographs of a Belgian autoloading shotgun, cracks in the sprayed-on 'Stresscoat' show where maximum stresses occurred when the weapon was fired. A skilled stress analyst can tell from the extent and location of the cracks exactly where weaknesses may develop. Courtesy Magnaflux Corporation

The use of brittle coating is quite simple, but the interpretation of the results calls for a sound knowledge of stress, strain and the strength of materials. Four steps are followed in a brittle-coating test:

1) The surface is thoroughly cleaned and a coating appropriate to the temperature and the amount of strain to be detected is chosen. For instance, you might choose a coating sensitive to strain of 0.0020 inch per inch or more because that amount of strain in the particular metal being tested corresponded to say, 30,000 pounds per square inch, which you may consider to be the greatest permissible load. Using this coating, any crack that develops means that a stress of over 30,000 pounds per square inch has occurred.

2) The coating is then sprayed over the action of the weapon. After drying for twelve hours, the gun is ready to test. Testing, in this case, is by firing a load.

3) When the load is fired, the powder gases expanding against the cartridge case and the barrel cause the metal to stretch (strain). Wherever the amount of strain exceeds the breaking point of the coating, the coating cracks.

Don't assume that the metal stretches and then stays in the new position after the gas pressure has subsided. If you keep on loading a piece of steel, it finally reaches its 'elastic limit'. That is, as long as the pressure isn't great enough to stretch the metal beyond this amount, the metal snaps back to its original dimensions when the load is removed. Machinery, including guns, is designed so that the anticipated normal load forces are always less than the elastic limit.

4) By studying the location and intensity of these cracks (after etching with a red dye) the engineer can get an excellent idea of the spots that are the weakest.

An interesting example of a brittle-coating test is shown in the photographs of the shotgun action. Here a Belgian Browning is shown after test firing. The light color over the action is the yellow brittle coating. The cracks in the coating tell the story of the forces caused in the receiver as the bolt slammed back.

Notice how the cracks are clustered about the large screw hole. The stresses seem to be greater just under the ejector. Evidently the forces in the metal change direction in this region. The opening for rejection probably weakens the circumferential strength (hoop strength). But going toward the rear of the action, the cracks become more nearly vertical. The metal is being strained longitudinally in this region. Recoil forces are acting on the rear end of the action. These forces are uniformly distributed throughout the metal in this area, except in the vicinity of the two overlapping screw holes.

In the top corners of the ejection cutout, front and rear, a few cracks appear. These evidently are points of minor stress concentration. The stresses have to change direction around the metal opening. Since there are abrupt changes in the amount of metal available for carrying the load, the stresses are higher in the region of discontinuities, such as at sharp corners, notches, and holes.

A fair question is: The rear corner shows less stress concentration than the forward corner. Yet the front corner is a much more gradual curve. Why shouldn't the stresses be less at the front? Why shouldn't there be fewer cracks here instead of more? The answer is that, because of the way the force of explosion is applied and spread over the receiver, there is more stress concentrated toward the front end of the receiver. If the radius at the front corner were as sharp as that at the rear corner, the front corner probably would show a great many more cracks than are presently shown at the rear.

Looking over the stress pattern, we find a few cracks on the top rear part of the receiver. There must be some reason why the stress is higher in this region. If the receiver were disassembled and that particular area were studied, it would probably be found that the metal just under those cracks is somewhat thinner than in surrounding areas. Probably, too, the recoil forces of the bolt slamming back have something to do with these strains.

Let's look at the other side of the same receiver. Notice

Exhibit A

One .38 Special cartridge, developing 16,000 pounds per square inch pressure, was fired in this Colt revolver, after spraying with Stresscoat. Both frame and cylinder coatings were calculated to crack at 25,000 pounds per square inch. Minor cracks on cylinder were caused by pressures estimated at 25,000 and 30,000 pounds. Photos courtesy of Colt Manufacturing Company

Exhibit B

This .38 caliber Colt revolver was tested by firing one .357 Magnum cartridge, rated at 45,000 pounds per square inch. Stresscoat on both cylinder and frame was selected to crack at 50,000 pounds per square inch. Note the magnitude of cracks on cylinder and all parts of frame adjacent to chamber in which cartridge was fired. Revolver was rejected for .357 use

the heavy concentration of stresses in the area of the large and small screw. Either there is a lot of metal cut away behind these screws, or the screws themselves are receiving and transmitting large recoil forces.

On this same side of the receiver there are also a number of stress cracks around the base of the vertical cutout. Since the cracks must form at right angles to the direction of tension in the metal, it is obvious that the cutout tends to concentrate the stresses at its base. Either the receiver metal is very thin here or the mechanism concentrates some kind of a rearward load on the U-shaped slot at this point.

This example demonstrates one practical aspect of brittle-coat testing. It provides an extremely effective way of determining what portions of an action are the weak spots.

A further application of this sort of study is shown by the tests pictured in the photographs of the two revolvers. Development engineers at the Colt factory wanted to know whether or not the standard .38 Special frame could handle the powerful .357 Magnum cartridge without modification. The conventional way to check this would be to test the gun by firing the new load in it. However, this approach has several weaknesses:

1) Even though the gun hangs together, there's no indication of how close you may be to a dangerous overstressing of the metal.

2) It is impossible to know which point is weakest, or to know the relative over and under strength of different parts of the weapon.

A brittle-coating test enabled the engineers to check every inch of the Colt .38 Special at the moment of peak pressure. The marvelous part of the technique is that no matter how a force is exerted on a section of the frame (bending, tension or compression), if it distorts the metal beyond the sensitivity range of the coating, a record is left. In a flash, the brittle coating cracks across the line of force, leaving a permanent indication of its amount and direction.

So this test was planned to see if the .38 frame could safely handle the .357 load. If it couldn't a major redesign job would have to be done. Here's why: Obviously the first point that might fail under heavy loading is the chamber in which the cartridge is fired. In a revolver, the chamber metal is not uniform in thickness around the case. A glance at the drawing makes it clear that the web, or the portion of metal between adjacent chambers, looks like the weakest spot. Here the metal is thin. Another potential weak spot is the milled-out section on the exterior of the cylinder.

Suppose that pressures developed are too great for the amount of metal in the web. Then the only thing to do is to increase the diameter of the cylinder so that the chambers are farther apart. But if the cylinder diameter is increased, the frame opening will have to be made larger. Then the increased metal will add a hefty bit of weight as well as bulk. There will probably be howls of anguish from gun bugs and potential buyers when this young cannon is put on the market.

Brittle coating offered an effective way to determine the safety of firing a heavy load in this model. By leaving cartridges out of the chambers adjacent to the one being fired, brittle coating could be sprayed on the interior walls and some indication of the stresses in the web could be obtained.

To find the stress pattern that occurs when a standard .38 Special load is fired, brittle-coating tests were run with a

standard load. Exhibit "A" is a typical test result:

1) The bare patches of metal showing near the muzzle are not the result of high stresses. They probably are due to imperfect application of the coating, or perhaps the muzzle blast had something to do with it.

2) There are very few stress lines or cracks in the coating on the frame itself. Evidently the stresses on the parts of the frame shown are quite moderate.

3) Two sets of cracks appear on the cylinder. One of these is in the milled-out portion, the other is on the outer periphery. Undoubtedly the metal is most highly stressed in these regions. Although it is not pictured here, an examination of the brittle-coating pattern inside the chambers adjacent to the one fired, showed that the web stresses were not very high.

Opposite the two bands of cracks on the cylinders appear the numbers "25" and "30". These stand for 25,000 pounds per square inch and 30,000 pounds per square inch, respectively. These are the estimated values of the stresses that caused these sets of brittle-coating cracks. The values are determined by comparing them with cracks in a calibration strip, which was prepared as follows:

At the time that the gun was sprayed with brittle coating, a metal calibration strip was similarly sprayed. When dry, the strip was bent to predetermined amounts in a simple hand press. Because the dimensions of the strip and the amount of deflection are known, the amount of stress induced in the strip can be computed. The density of the crack patterns associated with any desired stress are thus made evident. The experimenter can compare the crack pattern in the part tested with the crack pattern on the calibration strip. Thus he can identify the approximate stress level in the part under test.

Now let's look at exhibit "B", which shows the brittle-coating pattern that resulted when a .357 Magnum cartridge was fired in that .38 Special revolver. The large bare patch of metal on the cylinder is probably the result of high stresses which caused extensive cracking of the brittle coating, plus the effect of escaping gas, which may have helped to peel off the coating.

The most obvious area of stress concentration is on the upper part of the frame, just above and slightly forward of the cylinder. It looks as if this strap is subjected to high tensile stresses as it tries to hold the barrel and rear part of the frame together. When the bullet drives forward, it causes a terrific pull on the barrel as the rifling forces it to spin. Meantime, the gases are pressing the cartridge case violently to the rear. The photo shows vividly the concentration of tension stresses in the strap, and even in the rear part of the barrel.

Notice the mass of cracks in the coating on the frame just forward of the hammer. Evidently, when the strap over the cylinder stretches and the gas presses back the cartridge case against the upper part of the frame just ahead of the hammer, that part of the frame stretches upward and rearward.

Also, close examination of the milled-out area in the cylinder shows some very pronounced crack patterns in the hollow. There are some heavy stresses in this region, without a doubt.

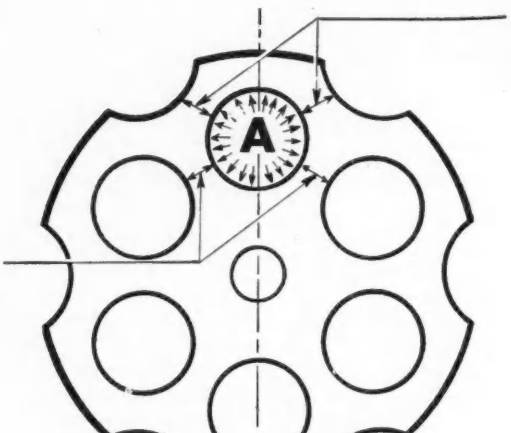
It does not require a highly skilled engineer to compare these two brittle-coating exhibits and see the weak spots. Anyone can speculate that the Magnum load is evidently too great for the standard frame to handle effectively. The skilled experimental stress analyst, of course, will draw much more quantitative information from this example. He can tell the value of the stresses within ten or twenty percent.

There are two splendid uses for this technique from the gun bug's viewpoint:

1) It offers a way to estimate the efficiency and safety of modified actions. Suppose, for instance, that you had a lightweight action made by milling away excess metal. You could run a brittle-coating test to see whether the standard loads were causing any heavy concentrations of stresses. Also, if the heat treatment job were inadequate, the brittle coating *might* reveal it, because the metal would stretch more than normal. (But the heat treatment could be incorrect, without showing up in a brittle-coating test made with normal loads. The metal might have been made too hard, or brittle and this would not be revealed by crack patterns.)

2) With brittle coating, you could check the actual effect of heavy loads on the action. For example, instead of estimating pressures by looking at the primer, you could study the actual forces in the action, just as was done in the photographs reproduced with this article. Then you wouldn't be guessing at how near the action was to blowing up. You'd be able to see trouble developing, and to know *where* it was happening.

Where to get brittle coating? Here's the sad part of the story. The only outfit that makes brittle coatings is the Magnaflux Corporation, Chicago, and they sell only *complete* testing outfits at around $1,000. Brittle coating itself costs only $7.50 a quart, but you need a spray *(Continued on page 55)*



Tests with Stresscoat quickly revealed that, in a cylinder of this desigh at least, the weakest spot is in the thin metal between chamber and outside cut

The thin 'web' between cylinders looks like the greatest potential weak spot in the cylinder of a revolver, but . . .

How's this for Stance?

By LEE E. ECHOLS

MY WIFE HELEN and I were unpacking our suitcases on returning home from the California State Pistol Matches at Calexico when she looked me smack in the eye. I think I'll get into this pistol shooting she said this pistol shooting looks like my oyster. How's this for a stance she said. Helen what in God's name has come over you I said if McCormack Reapers were ten rings you couldn't get a nipper five at twenty-five yards. Haw she said you are creating a great feeling of apathy in me with those jocosities about McCormack Reapers. I said Helen you're the gal who used to poo-poo me when I'd come home with a shoe box full of medals and a lot of troubles. Helen said yes Echols but that's just it she said things have changed since you used to come in with both front pockets full of pewter medals that no one could use and an alabaster monstrosity that looked like Ajax in a highway patrol uniform, defying the lightning with a bent-barreled pistol. Did you see all that beautiful silverware they gave away at Calexico she said. Now Helen Sweets I told her there wasn't any of that given away I said if you don't think Walter Walsh earned that then you just don't know what it's like to shoot it out with Emmett Jones for two full days. That's just it she said you used to earn that stuff you brought home too but we can't use any of it on the dining table. Helen Sweets I would like to point out that it isn't like that any more I said the kind of scores I used to shoot wouldn't even win those alabaster statues now. I said if I was shooting for lodge pole pines I couldn't win broomstraws with those scores I shot before the war. And not only that I said how did we get started about me I said you're the one who is talking about taking up pistol shooting. Look Helen Sweets trying to take that silverware away from shooters like Walter Walsh and Mark Billing is like trying to peel a live turtle I said Helen they shoot at that little ten ring fifty yards away. Poo Echols she said I guess I could shoot fifty yards as well as twenty-five you just pull the trigger harder she said. I said Helen I give up I said it's tough enough on me refereeing these big matches and having my troubles with the line men. Wait a minute Echols she said aren't you getting pistol shooting mixed up with football she said who are the line men. I thought everyone knew about the line men Helen I explained they are the men who run up to the targets and say plug that seven o'clock shot I'm sure it cuts the line. I said I thought we were all through with this shooting what with me all over the country running pistol matches and small-bore matches. Look Echols that's another thing I wanted to bring up she said you're taking off to a small-bore match every little while but you never seem to bring one of them home and with meat prices what they are. . . . Now wait a minute Helen Sweets I said they're not hogs they are calibers and I don't shoot in them I referee them. You are just getting me off the subject Echols she said I could do a little wet snapping at the range once a week. I said I don't want to seem completely out of things Helen but what in the world is wet snapping. Wet snapping is the opposite of dry snapping she said it is when you are snapping your pistol with ammunition in it. Besides she said you talk about me having to fire against Walter Walsh and Emmett Jones and I would be firing against the women she said and didn't you see the beautiful prizes they had for the high women shooter. Oho I said now you are getting into it I said have you not heard of Gloria Norton. Yes she said but she had to be a beginner too once. Yes I said but that was when she was eleven years old and you have a daughter older than that. I said Helen it just won't work I said you have gone along all these years not knowing a .45 automatic pistol from a double-jawed badger trap and it's just too late to get started I said. Oh is that so she said is that just so I would like to show you a picture she said I would like for you to take a look at this. This is a picture of Justin Wales she said and he is a pistol shooter from Bremerton Washington and he is 84 years old and won the Northwest .45 championship a couple of years ago. Yes I said I know that fine old gentleman Helen Sweets but a man like that has been shooting for years I said he was probably winning pistol matches during the Pope administration. Haw she said that's where I've got you she said it just happens that he fired his first match when he was 70 years old. I've got a lot of good years ahead of me Echols she said with all these sterling silver prizes lately this pistol shooting looks like its my oyster. How's this for a stance she said. ♦ ♦ ♦

Buffalo Hunt

Ol' Buffalo Bill has probably worn quite a groove in his last resting place, turning over and over at the way buffalo are hunted nowadays. On the other hand, maybe the fact that there are still a few of the big animals left to hunt has given him cause to rest easy. For, had he and all the meat hunters after him had their way, the shaggy beast that helped Buffalo Bill write his name across the pages of this country's early history in bold and colorful letters would be extinct!

Down Arizona way is now one of the rare places on the North American continent where the average John X. Rifleman has had an even break in drawing down on the King of the Prairies. Too, Arizona has some of the few free-roaming herds of buffalo left on this continent—or, for that matter, in the world.

These two facts, plus the one that Arizona is not recorded as having had any buffalo in the earlier days of the West, equal a rather interesting yarn.

It wasn't the noble thought of preserving the monarch of the plains for posterity that moved "Buffalo" Jones to bring a few members of the last surviving herds of American bison into northern Arizona in the early 1900's. His motive was strictly selfish. He had a scheme!

Jones wanted to capitalize on Teddy Roosevelt's setting aside of the Grand Canyon National Game Preserve on the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Adjoining this famous deer range was House Rock Valley. There, Buffalo Jones figured, would be the place to set up a huge hunting preserve in which he planned to have a buffalo herd, as well as a lot of other game.

Jones had another idea. By crossing buffalo with cattle he hoped to produce an animal that would yield large quantities of meat and a hide that would be worth plenty on the market. The name of the new animal was to be "cattelo".

The idea sounded good and Jones sold stock in the venture. With the money he acquired some buffalo. A number came from the Charlie Goodnight ranch in Texas. A few were bought from the Piute Indians. Some came from California, of all places, even though that state is far, far from the western limits of the historical range of the buffalo. A shipment was unloaded at Lund, Utah. The animals were trekked overland to northern Arizona.

The short of it was that Buffalo Jones' promotion balloon popped. He split up the tangible assets of the company among the stockholders. Some got the sheep. Some got the cattle. And one "Uncle Jimmy" Owens fell heir to the buffalo.

Along in 1926 some public-spirited citizens of the baby state got the idea of preserving the animal that had done more to support the early settling of the West than any other. Nego-

Buffalo Bill would turn over in his grave if he could see a 20th Century buffalo hunt. Here's how it is done in Arizona, as photographed by Charles C. Niehuis

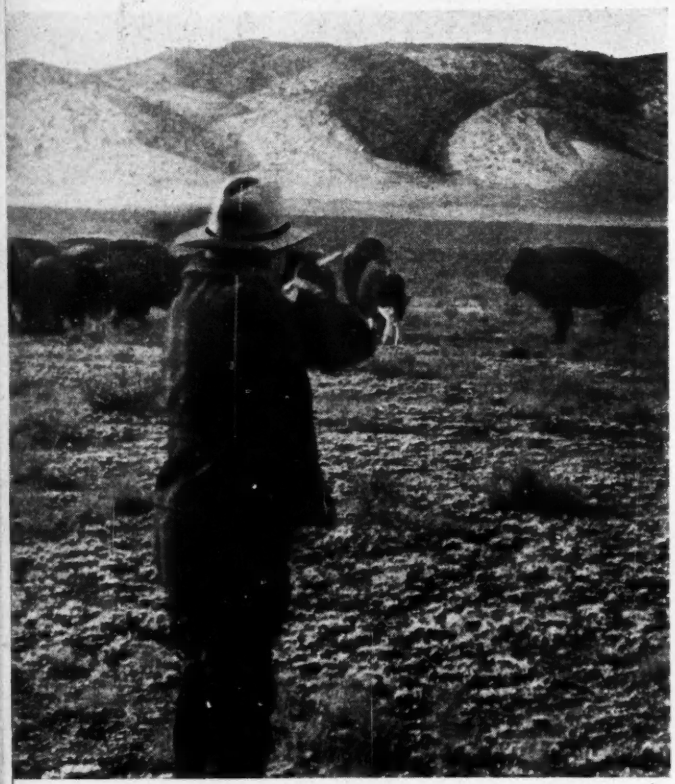
Grazing contentedly in the shadow of Vermilion Cliffs, Arizona's House Rock Valley buffalo are held by two range riders

Because the number of animals is always limited, Arizona awards the coveted buffalo permits on the basis of a lottery. This photo was taken last year

tiations were completed with Uncle Jimmy and he sold, for $10,000, all of the buffalo in Arizona 'north of the Colorado River'. After they had been rounded up from some fifty thousand or more acres they counted—83! The new owner, the State of Arizona, turned the herd of buffalo over to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to manage.

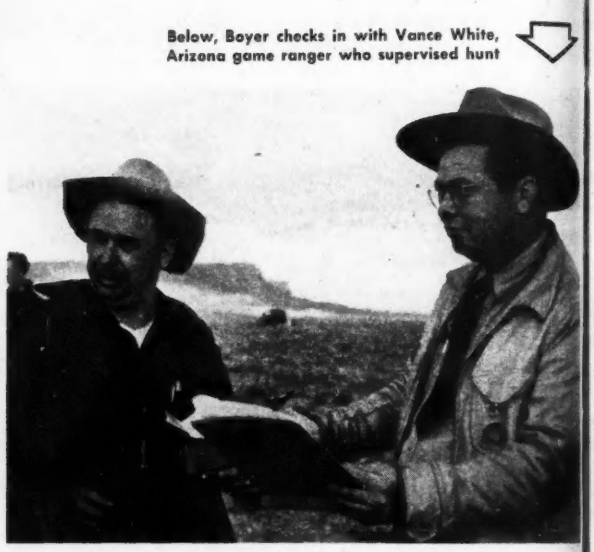
Gradually the herd was built up. New blood was introduced by bringing bulls in from other sources. In 1931 President Hoover, by proclamation, set aside 44,000 acres of land in House Rock Valley as a permanent home for the buffalo. Unfortunately, it was never so classified by the Department of the Interior—and therein is another tale.

Jointly with the buffalo, House Rock Valley has been used by cattlemen for domestic range stock. As the grass grew shorter a real range feud developed. Since the cattlemen were directly and financially interested in their herds of cattle, and the buffalo were stepchildren of Arizona, the cattlemen succeeded in thwarting the objective of President Hoover. The land was never set aside! As a result the Arizona Game and Fish Commission agreed to hold the House Rock Valley buffalo herd to 200 mature animals. This meant that each year the herd would have to be cropped of surplus animals by some means, to bring it within the terms of the agreement—200 head.



Lee Boyer dropped his buffalo with one shot from .300 Savage. This photo was taken at same instant the bullet hit the big animal

Below, Boyer checks in with Vance White, Arizona game ranger who supervised hunt



Two methods were open to the Commission for reducing the herd: killing, or moving those animals in excess of 200. Buffalo range in Arizona is naturally limited, consequently destruction of the surplus buffalo was the only means left.

In casting about for a fair-to-all method, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission decided that hunting would be the one economically sound and democratic way of culling the herd. The Commission reasoned that since the money taken in from the sale of hunting licenses paid the cost of managing the game, the hunter who was paying the bill should have the privilege of utilizing the buffalo.

Over the years a plan for selecting buffalo hunters evolved. Any licensed hunter who had not taken part in a previous hunt could apply for a permit to assist in the cropping of the buffalo herd, which was done each year. He filed his name, address and the number of his big-game hunting license previous to the hunt, which was usually held early in the winter. All applications were then placed in separate capsules and an open lottery was held, in which as many hunters' names were drawn as there were buffalo to be removed.

Ordinarily the annual buffalo calf crop was 25 percent of the herd, or about fifty animals, which meant fifty hunters. A list of 'replacement' or alternate hunters' names were drawn, in order that a full quota would be present to harvest the surplus buffalo.

The manner in which the actual 'hunting' of the buffalo was conducted is what would make ol' Buffalo Bill do nip-ups in his present abode. There was no wild riding of the range after a thundering herd of stampeding buffalo, to get within rifle range. The herd was actually brought to the hunter! And since the hunt was really a culling-out process, the hunter had little, if any, choice of the animal he killed. The animal to be shot was 'cut out of the herd' by a couple of herders, or

cowboys. After it was a clear and safe target for the rifle, the 'buffalo hunter' cuts down on him.

I imagine there are some snorts of derision from a few of the readers at this method of hunting buffalo. I have heard them on the field at four of the annual hunts. Maybe a more accurate name for the event would soothe the snorters—'buffalo shoot', possibly.

Be it known, however, the truth is that old Buffalo Bill's method of hunting was staged for the grandstand. Early hide and meat hunters, using single-shot rifles, took stands near buffalo herds and killed as many as 300 animals in a day's shooting. This would have been impossible if the nature of the animal differed any from that of Arizona's placid buffalo of today.

The big creatures are unafraid—more so than most cattle! At the sound of a shot the herd in general makes a few jostling steps. Then the individual animals near the fallen member sniffed around the carcass and resumed grazing. They did not run off unless molested too much or subjected to hazing by mounted men. Because of this stoic, almost phlegmatic nature of the buffalo, it can easily be understood why an early-day hunter, armed with an inferior single-shot rifle could drop a whole herd of buffalo in a day's shooting and not move over a few miles in the whole time.

However, don't get the wrong idea. Arizona's buffalo hunt was not without incident!

Usually the herd is split into two or more groups, each dominated by a big bull, when they roam the range. When these groups were bunched for the hunt, the bulls usually staged a fight or two—and buffalo pay no mind to the Marquis of Queensbury's rules.

Then, when the first shooter fired his rifle came a tense moment. This shot sometimes only served to turn the animal, which lowered its head and faced the hunter and spectators. As has been said before, the buffalo seems to know no fear, but he knows how to fight, so the possibility of a wounded and charging buffalo has often been considered. So far—possibly because of the herders—it hasn't happened in Arizona shoots.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission, mindful of the need of the right kind of rifle, set up regulations requiring 150-grain bullets or more, in killing buffalo. After observing two hunts and having served as an employee for the Commission on two other occasions, and consulting records of previous hunts, I found that .30-'06's, .300's and .30-40's were the most efficient, as well as the most popular weapons at the buffalo hunt. Records of the effect of shots made by nearly a hundred hunters over a two-year period show that there was not a single instance when a well-aimed first shot from the above three rifles failed to knock the animal down, usually with sufficient shock to keep him there. Lighter calibers failed to penetrate deeply enough or shock sufficiently.

Neck shots, just back of the head, seemed to be more effective but more difficult to make. The heart seemed to be the favored target, and was effective too, wasting little meat when made properly.

There's but one fly in the ointment, for the present at least. There will be no buffalo hunt in Arizona this season. More than a hundred surplus animals—the ones that might otherwise have fallen to hunters' bullets—were recently transplanted to stock a newly-acquired range. For the future . . . *quien sabe.* The state now has three separate herds, and eventually there may be surplus animals. When that happens, camps may again dot House Rock Valley, and campfires again twinkle in the clear Arizona air under Vermilion Cliffs. Once again cowboys, Indians and hunters may reenact Arizona's twentieth-century buffalo shoot. ● ● ●

Keith kills a buffalo

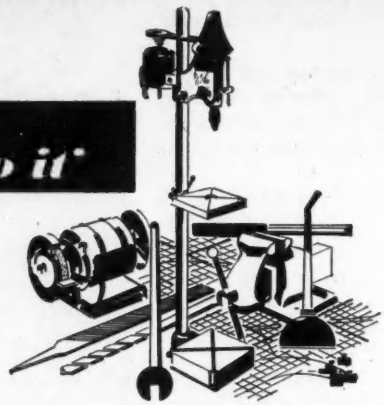
UNTIL LAST FALL I considered elk the toughest cloven-hoofed animal on this continent. But then I had not shot bison. In December an opportunity to kill a big bull bison in the open presented itself. For old times sake, and because it had worked so well on elk, I decided to use the .45-120-566 Sharps buffalo rifle.

The instant the bison saw us—my family was with me, as well as a friend and his wife—he threw up his stub-tail and headed for us. I decided to take no chances, and told my friend I would break a shoulder if it came in line with the heart, thus slowing him up.

As the animal turned slightly quartering, coming around a wash, his left shoulder showed through the peep and globe sights in line with the heart and I touched the set-trigger. At the crash of the heavy sixteen-pound rifle, we heard the heavy slug strike home with a terrific plunk. The bull grunted and, holding the broken foreleg and shoulder out toward us, came fast on three legs for thirty to fifty yards. Then he stopped as the shock took effect. Being certain the heavy slug had gone through his heart and lungs, I refrained from shooting again until his actions showed clearly that he was coming again and that for some reason my first shot was not fatal. As he recovered from the shock of the first slug and began shaking his head, with whites of both eyes showing, I ran out to the right and dropped to a sitting position just as he threw up his tail and started for us. This time the 566-grain paper-patched slug caught him in the chest and went to the skin on the off-side, penetrating both heart and lungs behind the shoulder. He grunted again and made another long twisting jump in my direction and stopped, clearly in trouble. However, after five minutes he was still on his feet and shaking his head, so I worked further to the right and gave him another shot broadside, squarely through the heart. Again he grunted at the impact of the heavy lead, made another long turning jump toward me, and stopped. This time he was clearly getting sick, but we waited another five minutes before he staggered and finally went down. A spine or brain shot would have killed him instantly, but it would not have bled him at all, and long before we could have removed and saved the cape for mounting the blood would have become too clotted to bleed from any throat cutting. So to save both meat and head we had to bleed him out with heart and lung shots.

The first slug had stopped in the shoulder, after breaking the huge shoulder bone. The second and third shots went through heart and lungs to the skin on off-side, but with a slow heart beat the huge beast required time to die of hemorrhage. The meat dressed out at 1011 pounds and the old bull must have weighed from 2200 to 2500 on foot, considering weight of hide and head. The experience convinced me, at least, that the big bull bison is by far the toughest game on the American continent, not excepting big Alaskan brown and grizzly bear. They are definitely not thin-skinned game.—ELMER KEITH.

A RIFLEMAN -"How to do it"



New Life For Old Barrels

By CLYDE BAKER

THERE ARE STILL a lot of good rifles to be had, even in hock shops, junk shops, and secondhand stores—if you know a gun with possibilities when you see it; if you are enough of a mechanic to recognize excessive wear; if you are enough of a cabinetmaker to know when a stock is split, 'chewed up', or otherwise ruined; and enough of a shooter to select a barrel which is either fairly good, or can be made so with reasonable treatment.

A lot of barrels that come under the notice of the rifle crank resemble something the cat decided wasn't worth dragging in. However, I'll go on record with a statement, to wit: many a barrel which is mighty hard to look upon or through will do surprisingly good shooting if given a chance.

I have seen barrels with the rifling worn almost entirely away at the breech but fairly good the rest of the way, lay ten straight shots into a five-inch circle at 100 yards. I've seen barrels which were not badly breech worn, but which showed pronounced rust pitting in the grooves all the way from breech to muzzle, lay them all in a four-inch circle at the same distance. (I'm speaking now of rifles in the big-game class—.30 caliber or larger.) I've seen such barrels so filled with soft red rust that the first stroke of a cleaning rod brought out a veritable cloud of it, only to learn that most of the rust was on the surface with very little actual pitting of the bore, and the barrels often shot better than I could hold.

When you consider that 2½- to 3-inch 100-yard groups are about the best that can be had in a machine rest with the average new big-game rifle of standard quality, and about two-inch groups the top limit with many match barrels, the four or five or even six-inch group from an old, worn or rusted barrel is to be despised. It's better than most of us can hold, and m of our game is shot at less than 100 yards.

All of which preachment is intended to lead up to the f that the chap of limited means or with no really good used g available—if he must have a rifle for hunting use—need feel handicapped too greatly by the possession of a barrel wh shows that its years have come upon it. If the gun is o standard, dependable make, if the breech locks up tightly, extraction and ejection of the fired cartridge case is OK, t if you don't pay too much for the gun the barrel may h amazing possibilities even though it looks pretty bad.

In the case of the .22, the main hazard is a burned or pit chamber caused by shooting 'shorts' or 'longs' in a barrel cha bered for the 'long rifle' cartridge. This will be indicated difficult extraction of fired cases and perhaps a noticeable sw or roughness on the front end of the empty case. See Fig 1. Bushing and rechambering the breech of a .22 barrel w cure this particular problem, but it calls for a lot of experien if the chamber is pitted, better pass it up.

When starting to check up on a questionable barrel of a caliber, the first step is to run a stiff brass wire bristle brush the right size through it on a suitable cleaning rod. This is t best opening attack for dry red rust. Brush out all you c using the rod from the breech if possible. Take the barrel e tirely out of the action if convenient. The next step is thorough scrubbing with the same brush with a small flan patch over the end, using boiling hot soapsuds. Hold the e of the barrel in water and pump the rod back and forth throu

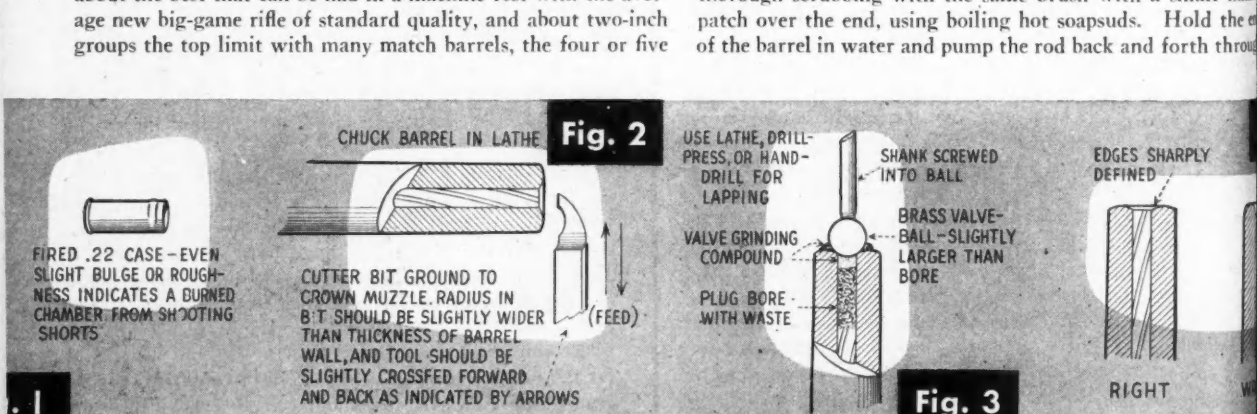
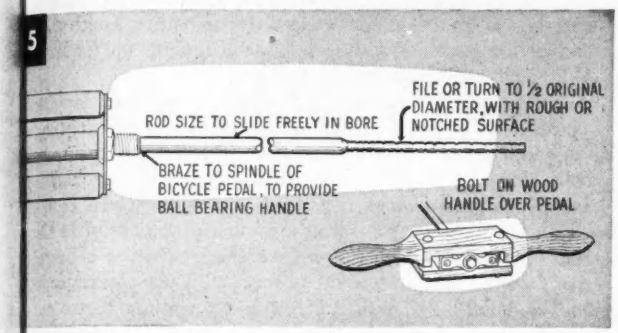


Fig. 2
CHUCK BARREL IN LATHE
FIRED .22 CASE - EVEN SLIGHT BULGE OR ROUGHNESS INDICATES A BURNED CHAMBER FROM SHOOTING SHORTS
CUTTER BIT GROUND TO CROWN MUZZLE. RADIUS IN BIT SHOULD BE SLIGHTLY WIDER THAN THICKNESS OF BARREL WALL, AND TOOL SHOULD BE SLIGHTLY CROSSFED FORWARD AND BACK AS INDICATED BY ARROWS
(FEED)
. 1
USE LATHE, DRILL-PRESS, OR HAND-DRILL FOR LAPPING
SHANK SCREWED INTO BALL
BRASS VALVE-BALL - SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN BORE
VALVE GRINDING COMPOUND
PLUG BORE WITH WASTE
Fig. 3
EDGES SHARPLY DEFINED
RIGHT

its entire length. Then rinse by pouring clean boiling water through the barrel until it is hot enough to dry of its own heat. Avoid the use of all oils and commercial cleaners in this first stage, for boiling water not only stops further rust action, but


5
FILE OR TURN TO ½ ORIGINAL DIAMETER, WITH ROUGH OR NOTCHED SURFACE
ROD SIZE TO SLIDE FREELY IN BORE
BRAZE TO SPINDLE OF BICYCLE PEDAL, TO PROVIDE BALL BEARING HANDLE
BOLT ON WOOD HANDLE OVER PEDAL

also tells you the facts. Next, twist a wisp of very finest steel wool about the brass brush and scour the barrel thoroughly. This treatment won't hurt it a bit. Rinse again in clean boiling water and inspect. You may be very agreeably surprised.

If the rifle is a .22, or any other caliber using lead (unjacketed) bullets, the next step is to remove any leading which may be present. Cork the breech end of the barrel and pour in some mercury. Hold your finger over the muzzle and roll and tip the barrel for several minutes until the lead has amalgamated with the mercury. Then pour it out and save it for future use.

If you suspect metal fouling from the use of cupro-nickel or other jacketed bullets, now is the time to dope it out before going further. Moisten a flannel patch with 'stronger ammonia' (26 to 28 percent gas) and swab the bore, using a steel, not a brass, rod. If the patch comes out blue in color, you know you have metal fouling, so get a bottle of Winchester Crystal Cleaner or mix up the standard 'ammonia dope' recommended by the Army Ordnance Department. Here is the formula:

Ammonium persulphate	½ ounce
Ammonium carbonate	100 grains
Stronger ammonia (26-28 percent gas)	3 ounces
Distilled water	2 ounces

Powder the first two items together in a mortar, then add the ammonia and water till completely dissolved. Keep in a dark glass bottle with rubber cork and in a cool place. This mixture will treat two or three barrels, according to caliber. (Use care, for ammonia solution will damage bluing on the outside of the barrel.)

To use this mixture, place a rubber stopper in the chamber of the barrel, and a two-inch length of rubber tubing over the muzzle so that the solution may be poured to a level slightly above the muzzle. If allowed to evaporate below the edge of the muzzle, it will instantly rust the dry surface. After filling the barrel, stand it upright for thirty minutes or more, then pour out the solution which will have turned a blue color from the dissolved metal fouling. This treatment may be followed immediately with a second similar treatment if there is still some fouling. Then remove the tubing and rinse the barrel with plenty of clean, *boiling* water.

Now you can see, for the first time, the exact condition of your barrel. If you are sure it is hopeless, throw it away and charge it all up to experience. But even though the breech is badly worn, remember that *it's the last six or eight inches of the muzzle end which really directs the bullet on its course.* If this part looks pretty fair, give the barrel a tryout.

Fire three to five shots at what you regard as your average hunting range and note the size of the group. Also note if the holes in the target are round, or if they are partially or completed 'keyholing'. Keyholing indicates a burred or otherwise deformed muzzle. If this occurs file off 1/16 of an inch or so as needed. True it up absolutely square with the axis of the bore. If possible, chuck the barrel in a lathe and crown the muzzle with a tool ground as shown in Figure 2, or file in the crown edge carefully, using a flat file on the outer half and a half-round, fine die-sinker's file on the inner half. To be sure the inner edge of the muzzle is absolutely at right angles with the axis of bore, finish as shown in Figure 3, using a small brass valve ball slightly larger than the bore with a little valve-grinding compound or emery and oil. Figure 4 shows the right and wrong shapes for a muzzle crown. Polish the crowned surface with fine abrasive cloth, cupping it in the palm of the

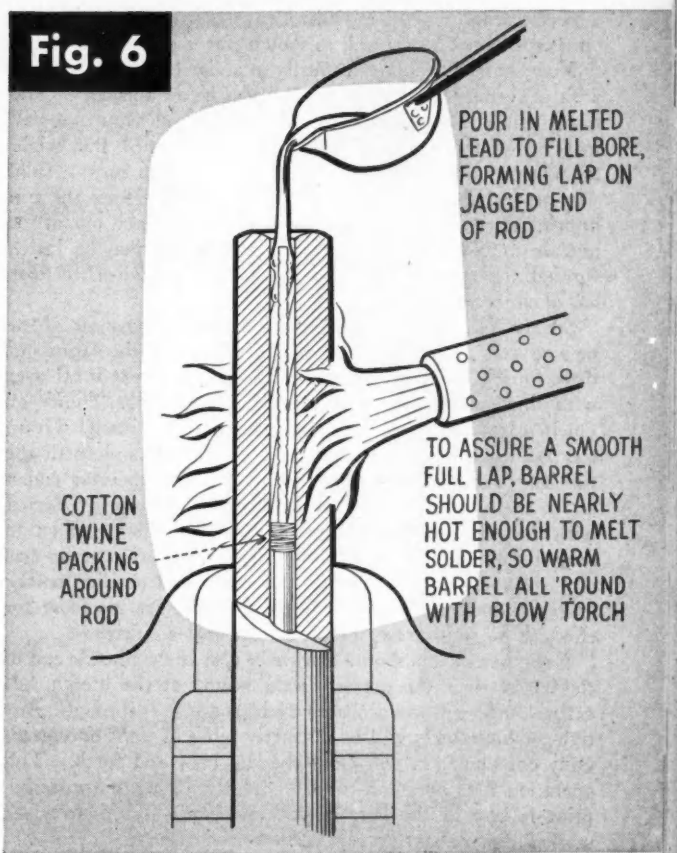


Fig. 6
POUR IN MELTED LEAD TO FILL BORE, FORMING LAP ON JAGGED END OF ROD
TO ASSURE A SMOOTH FULL LAP, BARREL SHOULD BE NEARLY HOT ENOUGH TO MELT SOLDER, SO WARM BARREL ALL 'ROUND WITH BLOW TORCH
COTTON TWINE PACKING AROUND ROD

hand for the outer half, and holding it on the ball of the thumb for the inner half. If preferred, the muzzle may be filed flat and square instead of crowning. The outer edge should be slightly chamfered, and the inner edge lapped true with the brass ball as already described.

Your next range test will show the amount of accuracy you may expect from the bore itself. But a rough, pitted bore picks up leading or metal fouling pretty badly and is a pain in the neck all the time. It is far less accurate than a smooth, well-polished bore and cleaning is always an unpleasant chore. So our next and final step in the regeneration of the old gun is that of lapping the bore from breech to muzzle.

Make a lapping rod with head filed as shown in Figure 5. This should be of steel and as large as will slide easily through

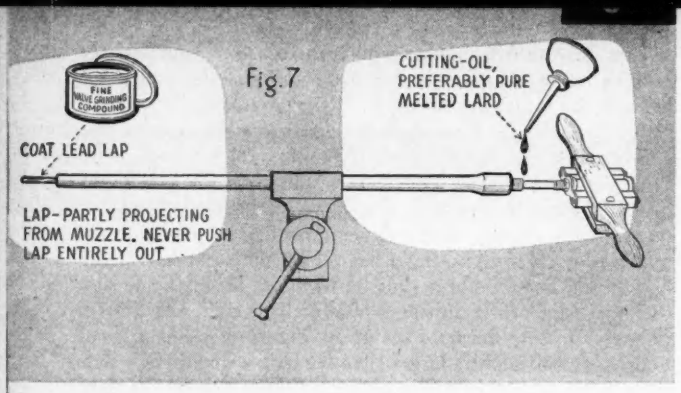


Fig.7
FINE VALVE GRINDING COMPOUND
COAT LEAD LAP
CUTTING-OIL, PREFERABLY PURE MELTED LARD
LAP-PARTLY PROJECTING FROM MUZZLE. NEVER PUSH LAP ENTIRELY OUT

the bore. Braze or weld its end to the threaded spindle end of a bicycle pedal to provide a smooth working ball bearing. Bolt on a crossbar of hardwood, as shown, for a handle.

Now, stand the barrel vertically in a vise (Figure 6). Wrap a bit of cotton twine about the rod just below the jag tip and insert it in the barrel, with the end of the rod about one-half inch below the muzzle. Heat the barrel until the bright muzzle turns blue, then pour in melted lead to form a solid slug around the tip of the rod. This slug will have the full imprint of the rifling. Push the lap about an inch out of the muzzle and file off any burrs or fins, so that lap may be drawn through the barrel. But *never push or pull the lap all the way out at either end.*

Set the barrel horizontally in a vise, with the handle of the lapping rod projecting from the breech; push the lap about three fourths its length from the muzzle, and coat it all over with fine valve-grinding compound (Figure 7). Squirt oil (melted lard is better) into the bore from the breech. Grasp the rod handle in both hands and draw back and forth the full length of the bore, being careful that the lap *never* comes out of the bore entirely either at chamber or muzzle. Recoat with the valve-grinding compound as often as is necessary to keep the lap taking a good 'bite'. From fifteen minutes to two or three hours may be spent in this manner, depending on the original condition of bore. If the lap becomes too loose for effective use, withdraw, melt it off and cast another.

Note that the lap should always be cast at the muzzle end of the barrel since the greatest wear occurs at the breech. If cast at the breech you probably could not push it through. Any tight or loose spots will be distinctly felt and tight ones gradually cut down, as you draw the rod back and forth. This operation does not tend to wear out the rifling, since its imprint is cast in the lap; hence both lands and grooves are worked down about equally.

Test the bore diameter before, during and after lapping with the standard commercial lead alloy or homecast bullet you intend using. Set the bullet on the muzzle of the barrel, tap it lightly with a hammer and make sure that it will *not* enter the bore, also, that you get a good imprint of the lands on the bullet (Figure 8). Similarly, try another bullet in the breech end, pushing it through the chamber and tapping it well up into the throat of the rifling. Most commercial lead-alloy bullets are several thousandths of an inch larger than even the groove diameter of a barrel, hence most barrels will stand considerable lapping without resulting in loose bullet fit. (Note: When I say 'bullet' I mean a *bullet*—not cartridge. Remove a bullet from a cartridge, and don't go tapping on the business end of a loaded cartridge—unless you want your friends walking slowly behind you about day after tomorrow!)

It is amazing the amount of lapping which can be done in this manner without resulting in loose bullet fit, and the extent to which a seemingly ruined barrel may be improved is truly gratifying. Often, every pit and mark may be completely worked out in a short time, resulting in a fine, smooth, beautifully accurate barrel. But even if only partially worked out, the bore is so smoothed and 'evened' for its entire length that accuracy is improved greatly, while metal fouling and/or leading become negligible considerations.

We used to believe in the gun trade that subsequent lapping with finer and still finer abrasives was necessary for finishing off a lapped job. I'll say for the record that I know this to be wholly untrue. Nothing more than commercial automobile valve-grinding compound is needed—the kind which comes with a coarse grit in one end of the can and finer stuff in the other. I'll break down and confess that whenever a barrel seems fairly rough, I start the process with the coarser compound and finish off with the finer—but use the coarse for three-fourths of the work. I've found it wholly unnecessary and a useless waste of time and elbow-grease to use pumice, crocus or any abrasive 'flour' for finishing a lapping job. Valve-grinding compounds are made invariably of either emery or carborundum, both of which cut fast at first but very quickly crush and 'break down' to much finer grade—finishing off as you continue the work with little or no cutting ability, but merely smoothing the surface under treatment. This is exactly what you want.

Though I've mentioned only rifles herein, many a good old pistol and revolver with a barrel that looked hopeless has been brought back to very fine accuracy by careful lapping. No swivel handle is necessary for these short barrels. Merely allow your hand to turn with the rod as you work it back and forth. And, since a revolver barrel must be worked from the muzzle end (unless you're equipped to take it out of the frame—as very few are) the danger of 'funnelling' the muzzle may be eliminated by using a lapping rod considerably smaller than bore diameter and casting the lap with a long bearing... from one-half to one-third the barrel's length.

When you are satisfied that you've done the best lapping job possible and carried the operation as far as is practicable or beneficial, withdraw the lapping rod completely. Clean the bore with gasoline and an easy-fitting patch on the cleaning rod, flush out by pouring more gasoline through it and blow it out with compressed air if available. Then flush and scrub thoroughly with plenty of strong boiling soapsuds, rinse in clean boiling water and finally swab lightly with a good oil.

Making something good and fine and useful out of nothing—or nearly nothing—is always an inspiration to the conscientious workman. I know of nothing which will result in more gratification than the salvaging of an apparently worthless barrel in this manner.

Fig. 8

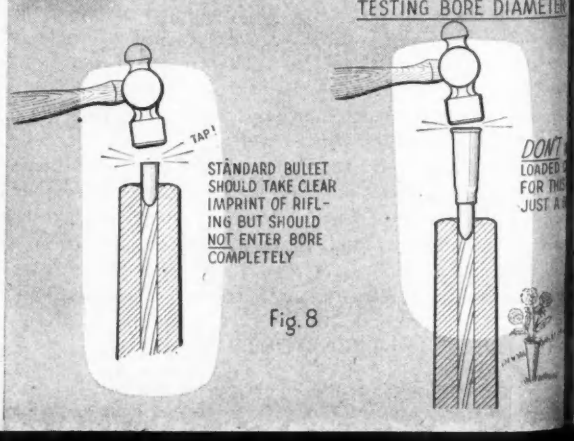
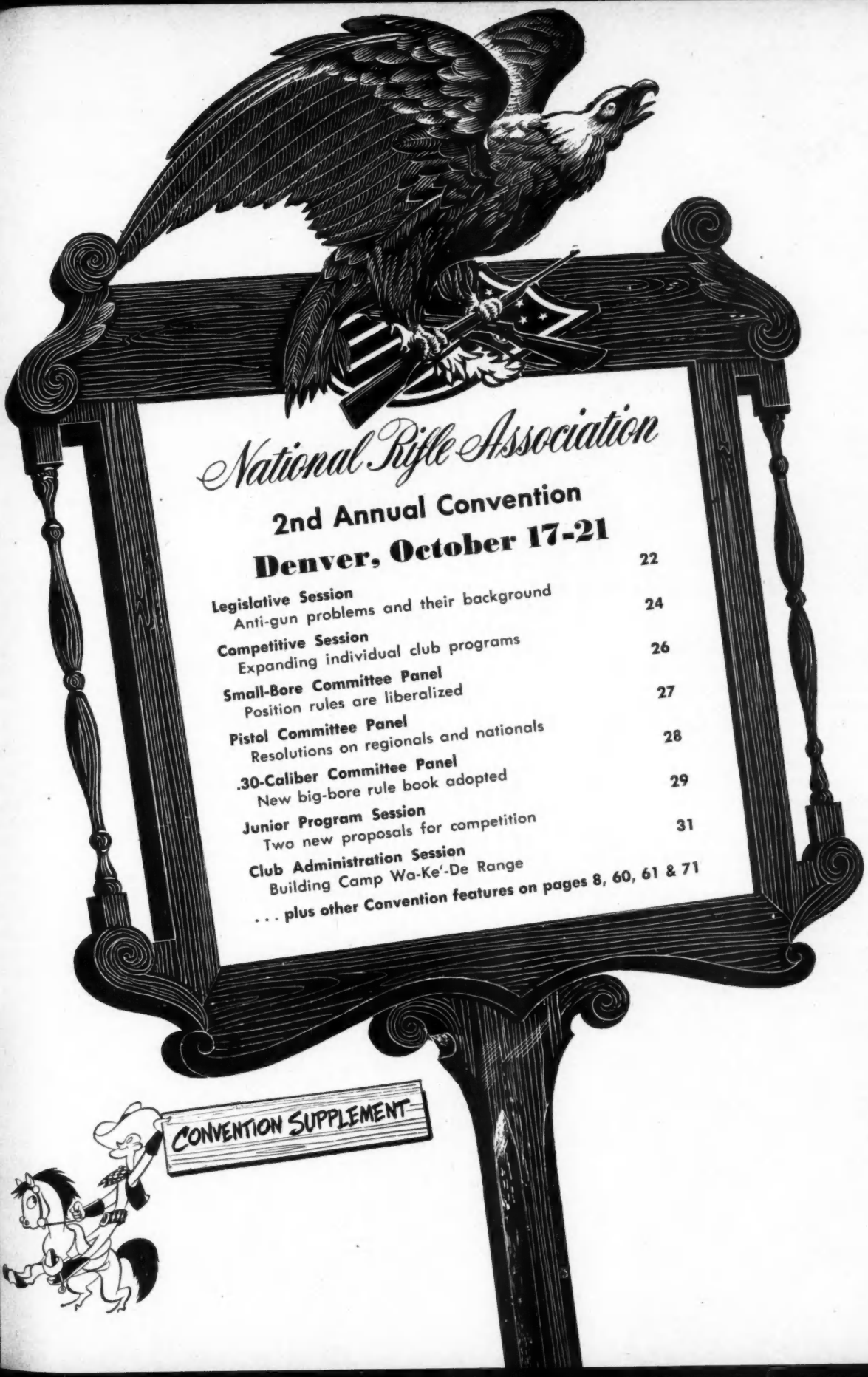


Fig. 8


National Rifle Association
2nd Annual Convention
Denver, October 17-21
22
Legislative Session
Anti-gun problems and their background
24
Competitive Session
Expanding individual club programs
26
Small-Bore Committee Panel
Position rules are liberalized
27
Pistol Committee Panel
Resolutions on regionals and nationals
28
.30-Caliber Committee Panel
New big-bore rule book adopted
29
Junior Program Session
Two new proposals for competition
31
Club Administration Session
Building Camp Wa-Ke'-De Range
. . . plus other Convention features on pages 8, 60, 61 & 71
CONVENTION SUPPLEMENT

FROM registration on Monday to General Robert L. Eichelberger's speech on Friday, delegates to the NRA's second annual convention in Denver, Colorado, were on overtime. After sitting in committee meetings and discussion panels from nine to five, they attended lectures, quiz shows, trick shooting exhibitions, and visited gunsmiths and firearms manufacturers in the exhibit hall until closing time at eleven. Up again the next morning for more meetings and discussions, the delegates seemed to thrive on meeting names and faces, talking gun lore with hunters, bench-rest shooters, and ballisticians.

Tuesday, NRA technical chief Maj. Gen. J. S. Hatcher told them what's ahead in small arms. Wednesday evening CBS newscaster Bill Shadel, recently returned from a trip to Europe with Joint Chiefs of Staff, in a talk on what he learned on his trip, told delegates that the U. S. is definitely committed to maintaining a stronghold in western Europe against possible communist aggression. Thursday night the Redfield Gunsight Company served over 1,000 persons at the 'chuck wagon' barbecue and entertained them with square dancing by Denver U. students, rope twisting, music, and laughs. Friday, delegates officially closed the second annual convention with the annual members' banquet and dance. Principal speaker at the banquet, Lt. Gen. Eichelberger, commander of the U. S. Eighth Army in the Pacific during the war, had some pertinent remarks to make that are of interest to every shooter (see Editorial).

THE LEGISLATIVE PICTURE

C. B. Lister's keynote discussion of the new challenge of antigun laws

"If there is one central theme that you can always talk about to any group of NRA people and be assured of their interest," said NRA Executive Director C. B. Lister at the opening of the convention's first general session on Monday, October 17, "it is anti-gun legislation."

"Anti-gun laws have been on the statute books for years," said Lister, "and they are really nothing new. Western states were the first to pass such legislation years ago. The laws were brought about by cowhands who would come to town, get drunk and shoot up the main street or the local citizenry. Laws were put into effect which required cattlemen and cowboys to check their arms with the marshall when they arrived in town, but the laws specified that the guns were to be returned to the owners when they were prepared to leave town. Designed to prevent cowhands from coming to town and indulging in gunplay, hurting either themselves or someone else, these first anti-gun laws recognized the right of the citizen to own and bear arms."

Lister contended that the laws being introduced into legislatures today are not based upon belief in the individual's right to own and bear weapons—the new theory is that the citizen has no right to an arm since he might murder someone with it.

Lister explained that the second amendment to the Constitution, long thought by shooters to protect their right to possess weapons, does not really do so. Supreme Court decisions and decisions of other courts have ruled that the first ten amendments to the Constitution apply to the states, i.e., they permit the states to organize and arm a militia or state guard, and are not a guarantee of individual rights.

"In face of such a confusing legal tangle," Lister said, "it is time the shooter and the NRA got down to basic facts."

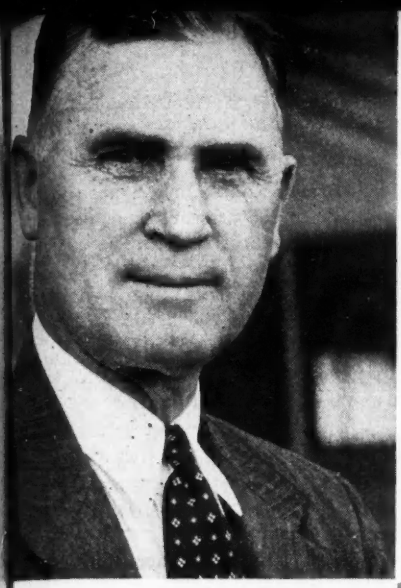
"To get the basic facts upon which to base a fight against anti-firearms legislation," Lister said, "it will be necessary to obtain complete and reliable statistics regarding crimes involving a firearm."

A case in Washington, D. C., was cited by Lister to show the situation on crime statistics. In the District of Columbia prior to 1948, the annual number of cases of aggravated assault on police records was about 900. As a result of a spirited campaign by a crusading newspaper against the Washington chief of police, in which the paper claimed that misleading crime reports were being made to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the number of aggravated assaults reported in 1948 totaled 4900 cases, when as a matter of fact the records showed the same number of arrests had been made in 1948 that had been made in 1947. In Pennsylvania, Lister said, a death which results from an automobile accident when an individual is traveling to or from the hunting field is reported as a hunting accident. Hence, statistics used in arguments for firearms legislation are not necessarily true, said Lister.

When an NRA member reads an editorial advocating control of firearms or hears of a bill that has been introduced into his state legislature which will require firearms registration, Lister said, he should write the editor of the paper in which the editorial appeared or write his state senator, giving his opinion on anti-gun laws. Only in that way will we shooters keep up an effective fight against firearms legislation.

In presenting the view of fish and game commissions towards firearms legislation, C. N. Feast, director of the Colorado Fish and Game Department, offered delegates food thought. Basing his argument upon the fact that approximately twenty percent of the American public obtained licenses to hunt and fish last year, Feast said the problem of the fish and game commissions has increased in size and responsibility with the increase in the number of sportsmen afield since 1945.

"And that is the crux of the matter," said Feast. With the problem of game commissions having become vastly more complex because of the recent increase in the number of active participants in hunting and fishing, and the diminution of habitat area due to reclamation of marsh lands in the north and swamp areas in the south, the public has failed to recognize that the problems of game commissions are not entirely biological and ecological. Actually, fish and game departments, of necessity, have had to assume more and more the burden of public relations, since anywhere from 60 to 6[illegible] percent of their problems are human problems. If the commissions are to do as much as they can to provide an adequa[illegible]



After 23 years, Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord retires as NRA Executive Vice President

At 'Get Acquainted' reception NRA Executive Director and Mrs. C. B. Lister meet and talk with Colorado Governor Lee Knous

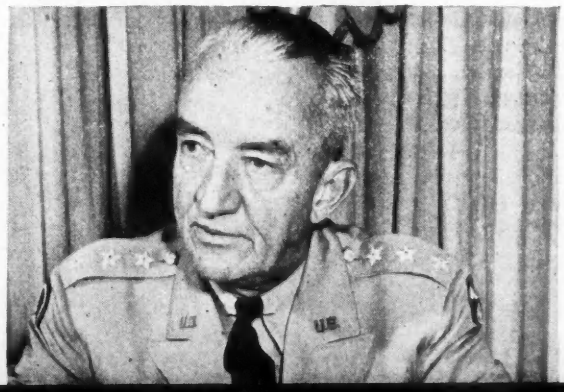
THESE MEN KEYNOTED SESSIONS OF NRA'S SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

Executive Director C. B. Lister assumes top NRA post. Lister was Secretary-Treasurer for years

CBS commentator Bill Shadel, former RIFLEMAN editor, reported to delegates on trip to Europe of Chiefs of Staff

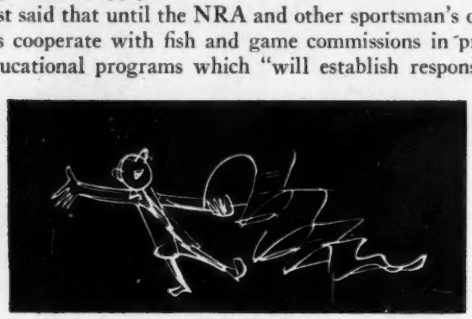
New NRA President is Maj. Gen. M. E. Edson, Rtd., Marine Corps shooter and wartime Raider Battalion commander

Principal speaker at NRA convention was Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, wartime commander of U. S. Eighth Army in the Pacific



supply of game for the sportsmen, the commissions must, and the public believes they should, have some control over the harvesting of that supply.

Feast said that until the NRA and other sportsman's organizations cooperate with fish and game commissions in promoting educational programs which "will establish responsibility



for a sportsman's acts with the individual", sportsmen must recognize that game commissions are forced to enter the field of firearms regulations.

"But police and others who advocate firearms registration as a means of control," said W. Owen Keller, Assistant States Attorney of Kentucky, in his speech on anti-gun legislation, "have confused the idea of the possession of the weapon with the idea of the use of the weapon."

Keller said that the matter of disarming the criminal by legislation which controls the sale and requires the registration of firearms is an impossible thing to accomplish. The prohibition law was cited by Keller as the type of legislation which the anti-gun crowd advocates. Under prohibition, the manufacture and sale of liquor was carried on in many localities and eventually grew into big business, yet it was all carried on outside the law, the source of liquor being diverted from the open, tax-paid source to a secret source.

Prominent small-bore shooter Thurman Randle chairmanned competitive sessions

Keller keynoted his speech by saying that ". . . prohibiting the gun . . . will just strike at you and me and those citizens who want to believe in the American way of life, the right to live independently, and to be independent and to carry on as American citizens have always carried on."

". . . my own Springfield . . . at home in my closet now . . . is something that means I am an individual, and that I am a man, and that I can take that gun, and I am a man among men, and that I can hold my own part everywhere, just as my great grandfather did when he rode down to New Orleans under Andrew Jackson and got killed down there. That rifle means something. It is Americanism, gentlemen, and let's keep it. . . . let's be sure the NRA remains what it is, not merely a gun club, but a social and an active force, a dynamic force in American life."

COMPETITIVE SESSION

General discussions of the ways in which the programs of individual clubs may be expanded

"It is obvious," said Thurman Randle in opening the general session on the adequacy of the present competitive program, "that none of the forms of target shooting as we know them have captured the fancy of the *average* American shooter." Citing the fact that over ten million hunters are licensed each year, Randle numbered the devotees of skeet, trap, rifle and pistol shooting at not over 150,000.

"The explanation that the hunter isn't interested in target shooting because he doesn't like to obey rules does not make sense," said Randle. "It sounds like an excuse rather than a reason; hunters are regulated in hunting and they play poker or bridge, which they have to play by the rules. A lot play golf—and they have to play by rules. Those who enter field dogs and horses in trials and shows don't mind abiding by the regulations of those activities. Dislike of rules can't be the reason.

"We target shooters ought to think about adding new types of shooting activities to our line which will interest the tremendous number of gun users, just as we ought to think about selling the present competitive sports to the hunters," Randle concluded.

To interest hunters in target shooting and shooting clubs, Ed Hunter, outdoor editor of the *Denver Post*, said:

"There is a basic difference between the target shooter and the hunter. Target shooters are content to go out on the range and punch holes in paper. A practical hunter uses a

Photographs by C. E. Petrone

In open meetings, small-bore, pistol, .30-caliber, and junior advisory committees revised competitive rules and adopted resolutions on programs for coming year

rifle to kill something. The only time he punches holes in paper is when he is sighting-in his rifle. It is necessary to understand this basic difference in character before we can formulate any plan to arouse interest of the hunters.

"I do not go along with many hunters who have an amused tolerance for men who spend their time on rifle ranges punching holes in targets. . . . Practical hunters will never believe the punching holes in paper targets is as much fun as killing an animal with a rifle bullet. They also will never believe it is as much fun to go hunting with a camera. They want to see something drop—something alive that will bleed when a bullet hits it. . . . The desire to see something fall or break is a big factor.

"If the target shooters of this country want to attract hunters to competitive shooting, they will have to . . . provide competition which has in it some elements of hunting.

"To attract hunters . . . it is necessary to design a rifle range which includes what the hunter finds in the field. It shouldn't be too difficult. An imitation deer could be constructed so the impact of a bullet would ring a bell to show that the hunter made a hit. The hunter could be scored on this. To maintain the hunter's interest, the shooter must see something fall or something break to indicate that the bullet had found its mark. A string of hawks placed at intervals of 50 or 100 yards should be constructed so that the impact of the bullet would knock it off its perch or explode a handful of feathers in the air."

Next, Inspector Marvin Driver of the Detroit, Michigan, police force, spoke competition and police training.

Driver said that a lot has been heard about civilian shooting clubs not being able to get policemen to participate in their shoots. Just because a policeman carries a gun and wears a badge most people think he is a good pistol shooter. One reason police officers do not come out to club tournaments is because they don't want other people to see how poor they are, commented Driver; they don't want to be shown up with the tool used in their job.

"The best thing civilian club shooters can do is to sell the idea of police pistol training, not competitive shooting," Driver said. Many police and many police departments are not interested in competitive shooting as such. "However," he added, "if they become interested in marksmanship as a training measure, the interest in competitive shooting will follow automatically. Clubs and tournament shooters should therefore talk to police departments about handgun training, not tournament shooting."

"Most combat shooting that police are called upon to do is close range work. Not much of it is at 50 yards," said Driver. "Therefore, the courses used in training policemen should be reasonably close. For that reason, bobber or surprise targets or international courses should be developed by clubs which wish to cultivate shooters among police officers."

Maj. Gen. M. A. Reckord, retiring Executive Vice President led delegates through many constructive business sessions

Malcolm Edwards, president of a South Bend, Washington, pistol club, spoke next on the subject of expanding the competitive program through a good program of instruction. Located in a town of 6,000, Edwards' group, the Capital Pistol Club, has at present a membership of sixty. The club has been shooting since 1933; it has sponsored three regionals.

"The life of the group," said Edwards, "is due to efforts put into instruction programs."

The club invites the community to participate in its regular weekly instruction session through the local newspapers. The sessions last from eight to ten weeks, one night a week, with the attendance usually around thirty. The number is relatively small but similar attendance through some 4,000 clubs in the country could certainly do something for shooting.

The first night newcomers are out on the Capital Club range, the shooting is done at twenty feet on a Standard American 60-foot target. About two hours of the instruction meeting are taken up with safety principles, then the shooters fire twenty shots, usually getting in the 90's slow fire the first night out. That encourages them.

The program is so arranged that as the shooter gains skill his target is moved farther back so that he maintains about the same score. In about two weeks he gets the Standard American 50-yard target and his scores usually drop.

If the instruction program is followed by winter or summer league matches, the new shooters are invited to participate in

.270 Weatherby sporter is awarded C. A. Rickey of Braymen, Mo., quiz contest winner, by NRA fieldman Lee Echols

L. J. Hirsh of P. O. Ackley Co. shows new expansion bullet to delegate Capt. C. S. Merrill

At exhibit, shooters examined products of over fifty exhibitors

them and they eventually become part of the club, having graduated from the instructional course to competition.

Community interest in the club's program is maintained through local newspapers with news, not publicity. Last year the Capital Pistol Club received over 800 column inches in the three local newspapers.

About 1,500 of the 6,000 people of the town have gone through the club's training courses. Though only about twenty of the present club membership are interested in every match, the balance are good for social events. And if all the others who receive instruction do is master the fundamentals of how to handle a gun properly, that is an accomplishment which proves the worth of the program.

SMALL-BORE COMMITTEE PANEL

Small-bore rules are completely revised

The thing of prime interest to the small-bore representatives at the 2nd Annual Convention was the "Proposed Small-Bore Rules of the National Rifle Association". The NRA Rule Book was completely reorganized and some radical changes, particularly concerning positions and equipment, were proposed and adopted. These suggested rules were the result of considerable work done by the small-bore committee previous to the convention. Consideration was given to the ideas expressed in members' meetings at the regional and national small-bore matches and individual letters coming into the Association dealing with the small-bore rules.

With changes made at the convention, the "proposed rules" were approved by the Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association, but will not go into effect until they have been printed and distributed.

The position rules are as follows:

"Prone Position—In the prone position the body is extended on the ground, head towards the target. The forend and grip are held in the hands, the butt is held against the shoulder. The rifle will be supported by the shoulder and the hands only."

"Sitting Position—In the sitting position the weight of the body must be supported only by the buttocks and the feet or ankles. The rifle is supported by both hands and one shoulder only. Arms may rest on the legs at any point above the ankles."

"Squatting Position—In the squatting position no portion of the body, except the feet, touches the ground or any artificial support. The rifle is supported by the hands and one shoulder only. Both arms may rest on the knees or legs."

"Kneeling Position—In the kneeling position the buttocks are clear of the ground, but may rest on one foot, the rifle is supported by the hands and one shoulder only. The elbow of the left arm (or right arm in the case of a left-handed shooter) rests on the knee or leg, the elbow of the trigger arm is free from all support. The right knee of a right-handed shooter (the left knee of a left-handed shooter) must be touching the ground or mat. A soft cushion may be used. If it is used, it must be placed fully beneath the instep of the foot with the toes and knee touching the ground or mat of the firing point."

"Offhand Position—In the offhand position no part of the body except the feet touches the ground or any artificial support. The rifle is supported by the hands and one shoulder only."

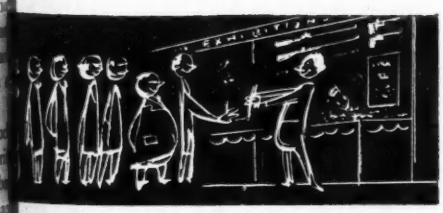
"Standing Position—In the standing position no part of the body, except the feet, touches the ground or any artificial

Head of NRA Technical Service, Maj. Gen. J. S. Hatcher, talked on small-arms advancement to gathering of delegates in convention exhibit hall

support. The rifle is supported by the hands and one shoulder only. The forward hand will be extended so that the arm will be entirely free from touching or resting against the body."

Other highlights included a new rule for hits:

"Hits"—As a general rule only those hits which are visible will be scored. An exception will be made in the case where the grouping of three or more shots is so close



that it is possible for a required shot or shots to have gone through the enlarged hole without leaving a mark. In this case, the shooter will be given the benefit of the doubt and scored a hit."

A new rule was added for breaking ties in gallery matches. This rule reads as follows: "For breaking ties in gallery matches any shot touching the ten ring but not touching the inside of the nine ring will be counted as an X."

The Executive Committee added one rule prohibiting the scoring of targets on the frames at the butts. The reason for this being that the backing target, with this method of scoring, is not placed with the target to detect all crossfire possibilities.

The future national championship program was discussed and plans representing two schools of thought were presented. Briefly, the one plan provides for shifting the national championship about the country, changing their location each year.

The other plan was for national championship on a home ground. As the case was presented in a letter from the Ohio State Association, it was recommended that the championship be held at Camp Perry. There was feeling present for both plans and no final decision was reached by the committee for making a definite recommendation on the program.

The meetings ran very smoothly under the able direction of Colonel Parker and the small-bore representatives as a whole seemed to be well pleased with everything except the state of indecision on the national championship program by the shooters themselves.

Exhibitor S. D. Myres, Jerry Smith, and 'True' magazine gun-expert Lucian Cary examine one of Roy Weatherby's handsome sporters

PISTOL COMMITTEE PANEL

Recommendations approved for conducting 1950 regional and national tournaments

Probably the most important business, to the majority of pistol competitors, conducted at the second annual NRA convention by the Pistol Committee in its open meeting, Tuesday, October 18, was the adoption of an 'aliki' rule to cover misfires and jams occurring in timed- and rapid-fire strings. The new rule, as approved by the Executive Committee to go into effect with the publication of a new rule book, permits one refire per match if a weapon malfunctions or defective ammunition fails to fire. The rule works in this manner:

If, in timed or rapid fire, a competitor has a misfire on his fourth shot, he assumes the ready position and at the end of the time limit calls the range officer. The range officer inspects the gun, finds condition as claimed, and finds two unfired cartridges in the gun. The competitor is then given orders to load five rounds and fires another five-shot string on the same target. In the first string he had two tens and a nine; in the second string he had five tens. His score is the total of the five shots of lowest value, or 49. However, if in the first string he had two tens and a nine and at the end of the second string the only other visible hits were two additional tens and another nine he would be scored two misses in the second string and the score would be 28.

Other rule changes made by the Committee were: the raised pistol position was abolished and the ready pistol position established, which requires "the gun to be held in a safe forward position with the trigger finger outside the trigger guard"; the exchange of barrels and portable weights is permitted without such action being considered as changing arms.

Out of lengthy discussion on regional and national tournaments the pistol committee submitted resolutions to the Executive Committee, urging their adoption, that:

1) Regional boundary lines be again established with, insofar as possible, state lines as regional boundaries.

2) Entries in regional tournaments be open to all competitors. However, the regional championship awards provided by the NRA to be limited to residents of the region. All other awards to be furnished by the regional sponsors, to be open to all competitors regardless of their residence.

3) Trips to the National Pistol Matches be provided as prizes to the regional winner and to the high-ranking Expert, Sharpshooter and Marksman. If these trip winners cannot go, the trip is to be passed on to the next runner-up.

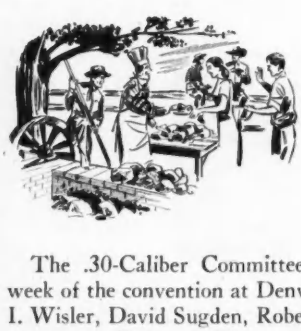
4) The 1950 National Pistol Championship Matches be held pre-convention at San Francisco and that the invitation which has been extended by the San Francisco Police Department to hold these matches on their range be accepted.

5) Provisions be worked out to provide a Sharpshooters' and Marksmen's Match in conjunction with the 1950 National Pistol Championship Matches.

6) Eligibility to the 1950 National Pistol Championship Matches be as broad and liberal as possible.

After Redfield 'chuck-wagon' dinner, students from Denver University entertained crowd with colorful square dances and musical program

Over 1000 persons enjoyed famed Western hospitality and prize beef at Redfield Gunsight Company's chuck-wagon barbecue



.30-CALIBER PANEL

Plans for increasing the competitive activities of big-bore shooters

The .30-Caliber Committee Panel met twice during the week of the convention at Denver. A roll call showed Russell I. Wisler, David Sugden, Robert L. Kirk, Thomas M. Blakemore, and Chairman Thurman Randle present, together with approximately seventy-five convention delegates. A general discussion of the possibility of holding national and regional high-power rifle tournaments during 1950 and the possibility of establishing a high-power classification system was held.

After much discussion about the old days at Camp Perry and the idea of moving the national matches around to different areas of the country each year, the shooters present agreed that Camp Perry as a 'home' for the national matches should be forgotten. The utilization of other ranges, in particular those maintained by branches of the armed services, was sug-

gested as one possibility for locating adequate facilities for high-power rifle competition. The consensus of high-power rifle shooters at the convention seemed to favor definite steps toward a national high-power tournament for 1950.

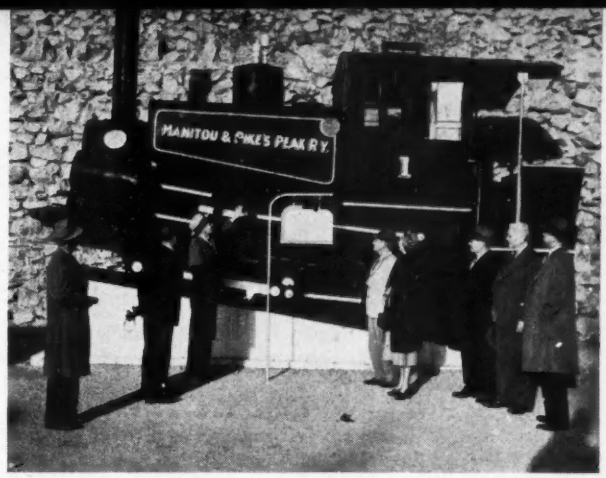
Russell Wisler described the facilities available at Camp Roberts, California, and also described the manner in which the California Rifle and Pistol Association conducted the California .30-caliber championships in 1949. Mr. Wisler recommended that the facilities of Camp Roberts be considered for a limited national high-power championship tournament in 1950.

It was thought doubtful if any range which could be utilized is large enough to accommodate all competitors who would attend an open national high-power rifle match. In view of this fact, the committee decided that some elimination matches or eligibility regulations would be required. After lengthy discussion, a motion was adopted recommending that plans be drawn up to inaugurate a high-power rifle program which would culminate in a national championship high-power rifle match, the program to be based on the elimination principle, either in regional or state tournaments.

It was the general opinion of the committee that regional tournaments or state championship matches would provide a means by which teams could be selected to compete in the national championship match. A motion to hold regional tournaments was passed, tentatively planning that the awarding of sponsorship and trophies for regional high-power matches be set up on the same basis as regional small-bore and pistol matches.

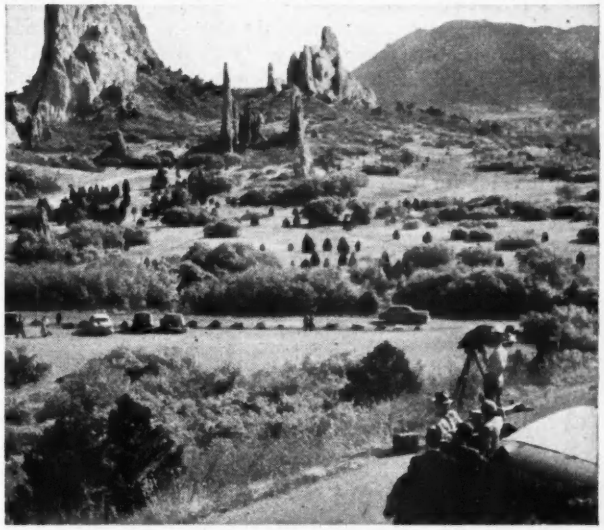
After discussion of the utilization of the Army qualification system and statistics from the old high-power national matches for purposes of classification, a motion was passed recommending that the NRA work out a classification system for high-power rifle competition.

Eleven specific changes in the suggested rules for high-power rifle matches were brought to a vote of the members present and were passed upon by a majority. The results of these recommendations were turned over to the Executive Committee and are now being acted upon by a sub-committee of the high-power committee. Upon final approval by the sub-committee, a new high-power rule book will be published.



When Convention Special train stopped at Pikes Peak, delegates were given opportunity to examine early locomotive of Pikes Peak railroad

On trips into Colorado mountains during convention week, delegates glimpsed corner of awe-inspiring Western U. S. This was typical scene



JUNIOR PROGRAM SESSION

Plans for expanding shooting program of juniors and offering them other activities

A discussion at the Denver convention of one of the major problems facing the NRA in the effort to gain more junior members and provide a better junior program, the lack of suitable range areas, resulted in two specific proposals by the Junior Advisory Committee: 1) That a 25-foot course of fire, on 50-foot targets, be adopted to supplement the standard 50-foot course so that it might be used by junior clubs which do not have access to indoor areas which will accommodate a 50-foot range; 2) That the NRA devise some type of course of field firing for juniors.

Meeting in the Shirley-Savoy convention hotel in Denver, Colorado, some 200 delegates made these and other recommendations during a constructive panel discussion on the NRA junior program. The recommendation on the adoption of a 25-foot course of fire was made after the Junior Advisory Committee was advised by the NRA's technical division on the feasibility of using .22 BB and CB caps, .22 short cartridges, or air rifles over such a course. The recommendation was that the 50-foot standard American small-bore target be used in the 25-foot competition, since the bulls on any 25-foot target that might be devised would be of such size that scoring would be difficult, if not impossible, to perform accurately. It was also suggested that the present junior qualification awards be issued on the same score requirements now in use on the 50-foot course.

Other recommendations of the panel on the junior program are designed to encourage the transition of juniors into the senior competitive program. It has always been true that many, many junior shooters drop out of shooting after they become 18 years of age. The suggestion was made that a boy who reaches the age at which he can no longer participate in junior shooting activities is not prepared to make the transition to senior tournament competition unless his love for shooting is greater than normal. Therefore, the panel resolved that NRA Headquarters should develop a program of registered junior tournaments to encourage the transition of juniors into senior competitive shooters.

Other business accomplished by the panel included recommendations that a rule be adopted allowing any junior individual member of the NRA or any member of an affiliated junior club to fire in senior competition other than in matches which are expressly restricted as set forth in rule 1-3 in the small-bore rule book.

The junior panel also recommended the adoption of several rule changes which affect the younger riflemen. The proposed changes read as follows (rule numbers in rule book are quoted):

2-2 COLLEGE—Regularly enrolled undergraduate students who comply with the eligibility rules of their instruction.

2-10 SCHOOL—Regularly enrolled undergraduate student of any primary or secondary school who complies with the eligibility rules of that institution. Such competitors must be under nineteen years of age.

2-16 COLLEGE TEAMS—Members of such teams must be regularly enrolled undergraduate students who comply with the eligibility rules of their institution.

2-17 SCHOOL TEAMS—Members of such teams representing other than scholastic clubs must be regularly enrolled members, under nineteen years of age, of any junior club affiliated with and in good standing with the Association.

2-12 AFFILIATED CLUB TEAMS—Members of such teams must (a) have been active, fully paid members of the club for a period of at least ninety days immediately prior to the date of the competition. (Honorary members, *senior* associate members, supporting members, or members whose dues or assessments are in arrears are not eligibile); (b) *be members of an NRA affiliated junior rifle club directly sponsored by the senior club represented by the team or be junior associate members of that senior club.* (The language *italicized* is new. This rule would permit a junior as specified to fire as a member of a senior club team)

Final night of convention saw this gathering of NRA delegates and their guests in Silver Glade Room of Hotel Cosmopolitan

General Eichelberger spoke to NRA delegates at final banquet of his wartime experiences and of the value of trained riflemen (see Editorial)

It was also recommended by the panel that a new rule be included in the rule books to grant to juniors the right to fire in registered matches and leagues, and to achieve a classification, without the necessity of holding an NRA individual membership card.

Speaking at the general session on the NRA junior program G. E. Damon, of Colorado State College, compared the Association's Junior Division to a pump, "priming the future membership rolls with individuals who know enough of the answers about guns and shooting" to wish to continue in the shooting game. Damon said that it is difficult to pin down the worth of the program in dollars.

Acknowledging the value of some junior clubs in providing a healthy activity for youngsters which keeps them off the streets, Damon said that the worth of junior shooting activities lies in another realm entirely, in those values which affect the shooter himself.

Damon listed those values which can be transmitted by junior shooting clubs to the youngster:

"1. *Pride of accomplishment—in public.* A rifle club is an ideal medium for satisfying the emotion which comes from having done something as well as an adult. If it happens in front of adults, the unspoken dream of most boys and girls is realized.

"2. *Physical proof of skill.* It is satisfying to be able to shoot straight, and a lot more satisfying to wear a brassard or display a medal that proves you can shoot straight.

"3. *The urge to shoot* is so strong that boys will find some means to gratify it, either at property or paper targets. A junior club is the natural outlet for this urge and the proper training ground for the intelligent handling of weapons for the individual who has the opportunity to shoot elsewhere.

"4. *To be like others* is a most compelling emotion. The junior club offers still another place to see friends and to meet others on an equal basis. The fact that everyone is either

shooting or talking about shooting adds to that satisfaction of doing a single thing as a group.

"5. *Self-control* is a valuable trait that must be learned by practice. And no person can be a good shot without acquiring self-control in large doses. Any improvement in this trait alone, assuming that it is learned well enough to carry over into other activities of life, makes this personal trait a most important one.

"6. *Shooting straight* has more than one meaning. The lessons in sportsmanlike behavior, learning how to lose as well as win, and the desire to be absolutely accurate, are traits taught by many sports, traits which are most essential in the education of young shooters. Straight shooters of both kinds are highly admired by adolescents; they should be twin goals of any shooting program.

"7. *Good hunting procedures* should be a part of a club's conversation and, if possible, its activities. If nothing is done but convincing the boy that he must shoot often to assure hitting what he aims at, much of the wounding and losing of game will be prevented by that action alone. A knowledge of state game laws should be included in this part of a club's program.

"8. *A love of guns* is also inherent in those who like to shoot. To have the opportunity to handle the weapons of others, of any age or size, is to stimulate a desire, based on knowledge, to maintain the weapons one has in their best condition. It is not enough for shooters to punch holes in paper targets and call themselves members of a rifle club. A boy's interests are wider than that and the junior can be held more securely if he is given a variety of interests to fall in love with."

CLUB ADMINISTRATION SESSION

How clubs obtain ranges and newspaper coverage for their shooting activities

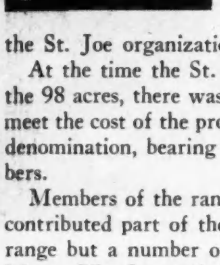
The discussion at the convention session on club administration centered around two problems which confront many a rifle and pistol club—lack of a suitable range, and failure to get news of the club's activities in the papers.

Locating a suitable place to shoot figures prominently in the life of every rifle and pistol club. Failure to obtain an adequate range, either indoor or out, can be, and frequently is, the death of a club. Too, the finding of a safe location for a range has become a real problem in some urban areas, and in order to get a range in or near a city it has been necessary for several clubs to band together into an organization stronger financially and politically than any individual member club. Associated Gun Clubs of Baltimore, Maryland, and the Associated Clubs of Los Angeles, California, are two examples of outfits which are not clubs themselves but associations organized by a number of clubs solely for the purpose of solving a problem common to all of them—getting a range.

The St. Joseph Valley Rifle and Pistol Association, an organization of eighteen clubs and 500 members which has been functioning as a gallery competitive unit since the early '30's, is another example of a group of clubs which have found it to their advantage to band together. Long desiring an adequate range for outdoor competition, members of the St. Joe Valley Association finally obtained it in '48. The story of how the Association of clubs scattered over a relatively large area in northern Indiana and southern Michigan got the Wa-Ke'-De Range, how they paid for it, and what the value of it to the St. Joe organization has been, was told by Mr. Waldo E. Seagly.

The St. Joe Valley Association bought 98 acres of land two miles outside Bristol, Indiana. After leveling the ground with bulldozers, a concrete firing line with fifty points was laid. Target frames at fifty yards, fifty meters, and 100 yards were put up in keystone-shaped concrete bases. A utility house was built at left and of the fifty-yard target line. A power

line to the range was installed, outdoor toilet facilities were provided, and two wells were sunk. A cook shack was built behind the firing line, and a steel superstructure was put over the concrete firing line and covered with canvas so competitors would be protected from the sun while shooting. The Association intends to put an aluminum cover over the firing line in place of the canvas as soon as it is financially able to do so.



Of course the question in the minds of all who heard the talk by Waldo Seagly was, "How did the club finance the construction?" which cost the St. Joe organization $14,323.

At the time the St. Joe Association obtained the option on the 98 acres, there was only $500 in the league treasury. To meet the cost of the property, non-interest bearing notes of $25 denomination, bearing no due date, were sold to league members.

Members of the range committee and other league shooters contributed part of the work necessary to the building of the range but a number of jobs had to be done by hired, skilled labor. The first such task was the moving of several thousand yards of earth to level the range site, which cost $1410. The cost was met by again selling $25 notes and by the league secretary's generous gesture of leaving her $400 annual salary in the treasury.

To finance the construction of the utility building at the end of the 50-yard target line, a raffle was held which netted the Association $1000. The building has proved useful to the St. Joe organization since it provides space for storing range properties, including rifles and pistol frames, targets, loud speaking systems, tools and pistol target operating mechanism. During a match the building houses the scoring and target details in complete safety; it is a minimum distance from the target line.

The target frames and backers were built by league members, the individual clubs being given printed specifications for them by the range committee and assigning each club a specific number to build.

The concrete bases for the target frames were obtained for $600 out of the $900 netted from the indoor match fee and the secretary's salary.

The white-top firing line cost the St. Joe Association $2826.50, which was paid in three equal payments over a six-month period. Proceeds from a regional and two registered matches enabled the Association to meet two of the payments, and the final payment was met by 2½ percent loans of $300 from individual members and by the proceeds from a raffle. The canvas put over the firing line cost $461.94.

The $1100 proceeds from the '48 winter gallery matches enabled the Association to build the cook shack and meet the first payment on the steel superstructure for the firing line cover. The steel cost $1390 and work on the superstructure was done by league members experienced in welding. The company from which the steel was purchased let the Association use one of its electric welders; the construction foreman for the company supervised the work.

Mr. Seagly closed his talk on the Wa-Ke'-De range with these cautions:

1) Only a small percentage of a club's membership can be expected to help in range construction, either physically or financially.

2) Original plans and blueprints require many changes.

3) Cost of labor and material will be higher than estimates.

4) Build for more than your immediate needs.

Newspapers are interested in and will publish legitimate shooting news, the club administration session was told by Dick Spry, state editor of the Des Moines (Iowa) *Tribune* and *Register* and publicity officer of the Des Moines club, if it is received when it is still news and written so that it is understandable by persons unfamiliar with the shooting game. Spry emphasized that newspapers often do not have enough reporters to cover large sporting events which are of much wider interest to the paper's readers than a small-bore match, therefore it is only natural for a club to supply the paper with a story on a tournament or election of officers *if* the club is interested in obtaining newspaper coverage of its activities.

The coverage obtained by the Des Moines club is typical of that which can be obtained by any club, Spry told the audience. A two-day tournament in Des Moines is good for two stories, one at the end of the first day's firing, which can be called into the paper, and another at the end of the tournament carrying a detailed story of *who* won *what, where, when, why* or *how*, and a summary of class winners. Pictures of the winner are sometimes used with the stories.

It is a good idea, Spry said, for any club which seeks newspaper coverage of its activities to send a representative of the club to the editor of the paper, explaining briefly the activities of the club and offering to supply him news of those activities. Do not ask an editor for publicity of the club's activities, Spry cautioned, or all might be lost since newspapers and newspaper editors detest the word publicity and throw any copy which is not legitimate news into the wastebasket.

As for writing the story, Spry said, stick to the facts, write simply and clearly, forget the X's and other technical details of the shoot which might confuse the reader, and list the top winners in each class.

Roy Gradle also spoke on the history of the Santa Barbara Rifle Club and the development of the range where the annual Semana Nautica small-bore tournament is held as part of Santa Barbara's famous yearly festival. ♦♦♦

AND IN CLOSING . . .

the thanks of every delegate, and of every officer, director and NRA staffman, to the people of Denver who made a fine and heartwarming thing of the West's famed hospitality. Thanks to Watt and Aleen Redfield, for their gift of an evening of rare entertainment and good fellowship at Lowry Air Force Base . . . to the officers and men of the base, for their part in the Redfields' 'chuck-wagon' barbecue . . . to the hard-working Schooleys . . . the Markles . . . the Mains . . . to Walter Harms . . . James Revet . . . the Flanders . . . to Charles Raden . . . to the Sharpnacks . . . to Lucille Bahr and Mary Walsh . . . and to the clubs of Denver . . . the Isaak Walton Rifle and Pistol Club . . . the YMCA Rifle Club . . . and the Federal Employees Pistol Club . . . for the kind of support which made the difference between the dull business meeting it might have been and the friendly, memorable get-together it was.

Something new from Switzerland

By Capt. Reginald Hawkins

IN SPITE OF a realization by American shooters of Switzerland's place among gun-using nations, comparatively few of us have any detailed knowledge of Swiss firearms. Perhaps least known of these weapons are Swiss handguns. Possible exceptions to this rule are the Swiss Ordnance Revolver (1882/1929) in 7.5-mm. caliber, and the Swiss Ordnance Pistol (Parabellum 06/29) in 7.65-mm. caliber. Swiss free pistols are well known, of course, and particularly those of Rudolph Haemmerli & Cie of Lensburg, which figured so prominently in the recent Olympics.

The newest Swiss automatic pistol is one manufactured by the Schweizerische Industrie Gesellschaft (SIG) of Neuhausen am Rheinfall in northern Switzerland. This corporation, besides being in the gun business, builds and repairs electrical railroad cars, coaches, and street cars. They have been in the small-arms development and manufacturing fields for over 80 years. At their plant they have an excellent firing range and proof house. Their museum of modern weapons, which includes their pilot models, is extensive.

The latest Neuhausen pistol, named after the Swiss town where the SIG factory is located, is made under the Petter patents. SIG acquired the patent rights before the beginning of the last war and has been the sole manufacturer since. It is called 'Automatic Pistol Neuhausen 47/8, Petter Patent,' and is made in calibers 7.65- and 9-mm. Parabellum. This pistol has now been introduced by the Swiss government as its new service pistol; also the Danish government has accepted it as the new service arm.

The inventor and patentee is Charles Gabriel Petter, a Swiss engineer who was until recently, at least, living in Montreux, Switzerland. During the first World War, Petter was an officer in the French Army and later was in Paris as director of the SACM (*Societe' Alsacienne de Construction Mecaniques*).

Petter's first patent on a pistol is dated 9 March 1934 (France), while the Swiss patent, 185252, was issued in October 1936. The French Government, in 1935, acquired the French rights and from them adopted the French service pistol, Model 1935A, which is close to the original drawings. The caliber of this pistol was approximately .31 inch.

When SIG made their first pistol (Swiss Patent 239033) a few changes were incorporated. It was in 9-mm. Parabellum caliber (9-mm. Luger) and named 44/16, which means Model 1944, 16-round magazine (Figs. 1 and 2). A later model, 47/8 (Figs. 3 and 4), was put out with improvements. This 1944 model was found to be too heavy when loaded with 16 cartridges, and in addition had a very wide grip. On the 1947 model, an 8-round magazine was used; the stocks were made thinner and the slide profile and catch were redesigned. SIG stated that they could make a 16-round magazine but preferred not to do so.

(Continued on page 51)

Figures 1 and 2 (upper illustrations) show assembled and broken-down views of the 44/16 Neuhausen. Lower photos (figures 3, 4) are of the later model 47/8 Neuhausen, a redesigned version of the model 44/16

You Can't Cure 'Buck Fever'

By BUD JACKSON

WHEN YOU READ THIS SAD TALE, DON'T FEEL TOO SMUG AND SUPERIOR. YOU MAY BE NEXT ON THE LIST OF VICTIMS.

THERE NEVER WAS a man who thought he was going to have buck fever. It's a malady you cannot anticipate, and for that reason it's one you can't do anything about. Asking a man in the throes of the buck to relax is like asking a cat not to have fur.

Probably no member of the whole family of jitters (up to and including that variety which is alleged to occur the morning after a previous evening) has received more notoriety than that which affects lovers of the hunt. It's a peculiar thing, which is not to say that it is at all rare. Its manifestations vary with the individual, its after effects are sometimes little short of horrible. There's a school of thought which holds it to be merely a fine case of nerves, the same sort you used to get when you waited for the kickoff. Another group contends it's a fear complex of a sort, the half-buried fear of the unknown which exists in each of us.

As far as is known, no medical man has ever diagnosed buck fever, although the writer can cite the cases of several who suffered attacks of it in its most advanced stages. Incidentally, one of these confessed when asked about it that he hadn't been in a frame of mind that could be called diagnostic.

Apparently, the buck rains alike both upon the just and the unjust. It may never touch you at all. You may shoot your deer, walk up to him, bleed and dress him expertly, lug him into camp to the accompaniment of much open-faced admiration and come away from the experience feeling that deer hunting has been vastly oversold. Or, on the other hand, you may experience a sensation when faced with your first (or subsequent) shot that leaves you harried and uncertain as to what actually did occur.

When the buck does strike, it may run to dozens of different kinds. The four best known are: (1) the common or mine-run variety which inoculates you and leaves you more or less impervious thereafter; (2) the second-time-around type, which ignores you the first time and then when you're satisfied you are immune, whacks you low on your second hunt or thereafter; (3) the delayed-action kind in which you perform all the necessary requirements up to and including dropping your game only to have the buck hit you like a truck-load of canned heat; and (4) the permanent brand wherein, God rest you, you are forever cursed with it.

The writer himself has suffered from forms 2 and 3, in reverse order. My favorite gunning companion, Jelly Gatewood, and I had moved into the Colorado Rockies one season for a mule deer hunt. From a camp high in the fastnesses of the Gunnison National Forest, we started out each morning in expectation of action only to return to camp in low spirits, without having sighted game or even traces of game. This went on for four days and if we hadn't had a change of luck, I doubt either of us could have done anything about game when we finally did see it.

On the fifth morning, as we crossed a little sagebrush knoll at about 9,000 feet, Jelly spotted a fine, big-antlered muley and leveled his weapon. Thinking to back him up in the event of a miss (and unable to do a very accurate range estimate because I have the sight of only one eye) I whispered a hoarse request for the range. Thereupon, with self-denial that could have been no less than soul-shaking, he lowered his gun and insisted that I take the shot. I'd never bagged a muley; he had dropped many of them. We argued briefly while the buck grazed away, all unaware, until at last I laid the cross-hairs on his back at the shoulder and let go the shot. He dropped in his tracks.

I'd not had time to get jittery; it was over too quickly. I walked manfully down to the fallen monarch (he was all of that, with a two-foot spread and a main beam of perhaps 22 inches, not to mention 11 points), mentally scoffing at all the poor dubs I'd heard describing their difficulties in the presence of game. Then a strange thing happened. Confronted with the necessity for quickly bleeding and hog-dressing him (for the weather was warm) I suddenly developed trouble freeing my sheath-knife and once it was free, after the devil's own time, I found myself unable even to hold it. I picked it up and dropped it again. Three or four times. Finally, at Jelly's insistence, I sat down on a handy rock, smoked the cigarette he lighted for me and got my shaking digits under control. Only then was I able to proceed. That's the delayed kind. They're not so bad, even though they leave you feeling like a fool.

Variety No. 2 is not nearly so painless. I felt pretty confident of myself several years later when Jelly and I embarked on an elk hunt in Wyoming. I had several mule deer, an elk and an antelope to my credit. I had not had the buck, with the exception of that one case. I had no qualms whatever.

We packed back into the Absarokas southwest of Yellowstone Park. We were in the best elk country there is but the bulls seemed to be conspicuous by their absence. Finally, on the fifth day, we heard the first bugling bull. Within a half hour we'd stalked to within close range of him where he stood in a little glade, the other side of a screen of spruce. Suddenly, as Jelly, the guide and I stood there, a tremendous bull wheeled out of the timber and moved down a little gulch straight toward us, obviously seeing us and just as obviously bent on investigating.

I will always believe that had I fired immediately when he came into sight I'd have dropped him easily, for he was only about a hundred yards distant. But the guide cautioned:

"Let him come as close as he will, then shoot for the neck. That way you won't spoil any meat."

I let him come on—until he seemed almost on top of us. Through the scope, his eyes looked inflamed, the hairs of his neck stood erect, his nostrils flared. He shook his polished antlers from side to side, their ivory points gleaming, their spread enormous. Then, because I could stand it no longer, I fired, when he was about 80 yards away. It seems impossible that I could have missed him, for he spun and broke into the timber, disappearing before I could lever in another cartridge. I was convinced my hold had been true and that nerves had had nothing to do with the miss. Then I realized what had happened.

Shooting a gun sighted-in to hit the point of aim at 150 yards, my shot had gone high for the simple reason that the target was only about half that distance away. Shooting for the neck, that meant a clean miss. As I sat on a stump, meditating upon the fortunes of war, my hands shook so that I couldn't put my head in them, although that had been my original intention. That had been the buck, all right. It hadn't been a virulent attack, just enough to make me ignore one of the simplest of rifle-shooting precepts—that trajectory will take your bullet over a target that is closer than the distance for which your weapon is sighted in. That's Form 2.

Incidentally and just for the record, two hours later I finally got my bull, hitting him three times, twice in the chest cavity, at a measured quarter-of-a-mile! Needless to say, I

didn't have the buck then.

Poor Bill Stone is a victim of the worst type, Form 4, which is to say he is perennially afflicted. He got the jitters five times in two days. Home from two years in the South Pacific during World War II, Bill was in a party which drifted out to Colorado during deer season one fall. Theoretically, after Tarawa and Iwo, he shouldn't have been much bothered by deer hunting. Yet, on the first day out, he emptied his gun at a fleeing wraith without even coming close. Again, the same day, he did it again. That night he told us about it, grinning.

"I fired 12 shots all told," he said. "Guess maybe I had buck fever, though I didn't think I would. My hands were steady. My nerves were steady. My eye was steady. But, you know there was sure something wrong with that rifle barrel because the dam' thing wouldn't hold still for love nor sour apples."

And Bill had the same experience thrice more. Convinced finally that he couldn't hit the broadside of a squaw Indian with a handful of cold cream, he finally threw a desperate shot at a wildly running buck and felled it. The story has an interesting angle, by the way. Bill went down to bleed and dress the kill but finished the job only after some difficulty. Afterward, he told us that "the blamed thing tried to get up on me once, right after I'd cut his throat, but I sat on his head and he quieted down". Lucky he did, too, for hours of searching for bullet wounds revealed not a single hole in that buck. The only evidence of a hit was a narrow furrow along his back where a bullet had grazed so close as to clip off the hair and apparently stun him but without so much as breaking skin. Bill

Stone, for all his being a sufferer from the buck, killed his deer with a knife, no less.

We're all familiar with dozens of stories having to do with the garden variety of buck fever. I think it was Jim White, a game warden out of Cody, Wyoming, who told one that tickles the funnybone. It seems an eastern dude was hunting east of Yellowstone with a veteran outfitter and the guide, having assured himself his customer scarcely knew one end of his rifle from the other and couldn't have hit his own mother-in-law with a bucket of shelled corn, took steps. He watched a bull elk bed down one morning about 11 o'clock, led the dude up to an outcropping of rock which afforded a vantage point some 80 or 90 yards away. After telling the dude to take his time and get in a killing shot, the guide dropped behind a big rock a stone's throw away, confident no one could miss at that range (although *I* could have told him better!).

He figured the dude would bust the bull out of there when he shot and then the crafty guide planned to plant a slug in the big bull and let his bemused boyfriend take all the credit. It didn't work out that way. The dude worked feverishly with his gun, which seemed to be jammed, finally stood up and swore loudly as he continued to work on it, and the bull lurched to his feet. At last the dude fired, missing his fleeing target by yards and the guide lifted his own weapon. He never got to shoot.

When the dude saw the bull getting out of there in a hurry, he threw down his rifle and hightailed off in pursuit, gleefully ignoring the fact he might have had trouble turning loose of the bull had he ever caught it. The guide couldn't shoot because the dude was in the line of fire. The dude came back with tears of remorse streaming down his face.

L'envoi to that yarn is that after 10 days of concentrated effort (in which the easterner, presented a half-dozen shots,

managed to fire his gun only twice but came through with excellent and authentic versions of epilepsy, the blind staggers and the screaming meemies) the two prepared to return to civilization, camped overnight north of Ishawooa Pass and ran into a boxcar full of luck. For next morning, the tenderfoot threw back the blankets, caught sight of a huge bull standing at the edge of a little park, dove for his gun and shot and killed a homeric 7-point (to the antler, that is) bull. It matters not that he promptly climbed a spruce tree and perched in it until assured by the guide the animal was indeed dead. What matters is that he killed that beast with one shot while he (the dude) was still half-asleep. I do not vouch for this story. Jim (if indeed it was he who told it to me) may, though I doubt even that. However, it gives insight into the lengths to which the buck may carry the unsuspecting victim.

All of us are familiar with the story of the fellow who, facing his first deer, stood and jacked shells through the action of his gun until it was empty and never reached for the trigger until there were no cartridges left. That's Form 1. But I scarcely know how to classify the type of buck which hit Les Stille. Les lives at Rifle, Colorado. Anyone who knows anything about mule deer hunting knows that Rifle is just about the tops for muleys. Les was born near Rifle, he has lived near there all his life; when he dies, he'll be buried near Rifle. He has killed more deer than there are artificial blondes in Hollywood. He has shot big ones and little ones and in-between ones. He has bagged bucks and he has bagged does. He has shot 'em with Thutty-Thutties, .30-'06's, .270's, .303's, 30-40 Krags, .300 Savages and even .22 rifles (certainly not recommended!) He even shot one once with a .32 pistol (he claims) and lucky for him that he did for that venison kept him from starving to death (he claims further).

So what did Les do one fine, frosty November afternoon

when the "gran'pappy of 'em all" stepped out of the aspens? He fired one shot from an autoloading repeater, missed with it the width of the county, then froze to the trigger. Though the buck, displaying one of those unbelievable vagaries of which wild things are sometimes capable, stood there and looked at his would-be slayer for all of 60 seconds, Les never was able to uncurl his forefinger from around the trigger. Eventually, the stag got tired of waiting and melted into the brush. Les' gray old face was a study in mortification at the time, although he freely admitted the crime. In latter days, he seems to take an almost childish pride in telling about "th' time I got th' buck-gunny," as though it betokens a sort of rejuvenation, a return to the strength and vigor of youth.

Certainly the buck is no respecter of persons. I know a grand shot whose target work is extraordinary and who is absolutely without nerves on the firing range. Not at all affluent, he put out about twice the amount of his modest month's salary on a little .270 with a 2½-power scope, and hied himself off to Michigan for a whitetail hunt. As he sat on stand the third morning, a nice four-pointer minced down the trail. Our nimrod rose, delivered his gun of a blast and wounded his quarry in the paunch, partially paralyzing it. Instead of getting up close and putting in a killing shot, he raced to the fallen deer and using that fine little rifle as a club, beat the buck to death. He got the deer. But he shattered the scope, broke the riflestock and forepiece, bent the barrel and reduced the ensemble to junk. I hope that particular variation of the buck never hits me! I can't afford it.

Then there is the case of another chap, awarded a favored spot on a runway in northern Wisconsin, who stood in open-mouthed amazement as four bucks, one after another, stalked past him less than a hundred yards apart. Just as he'd raise his gun for a shot, another buck would come into view and our hero would be torn between wondering if the deer going out of sight was the best or whether the next one would be better. This couldn't continue indefinitely, of course. The parade came to an end eventually and it is highly unfortunate that a great, grey mule belonging to a nearby Finnish family should amble into that sylvan glade on the heels of the fourth deer.

The hunter, convinced that he was seeing a deer to end all deer, fired five straight misses at the startled son-of-an-onager, but the shot which emptied his gun, fired from a distance of perhaps 45 yards at an animal who stood in the big middle of a clearing without one iota of concealment (companions of the hunter later swore that the mule was so obviously a mule that it must have hurt even the poor animal's own feelings) went straight through the heart. You probably are familiar with part of the rest of the pattern. It was the lumberjack family's best mule (worst mules, cows, horses, turkeys, *et al.*, somehow are never shot even by mistake) and our friend paid $100 for the dubious distinction of having almost not killed it.

But easily the most pitiful case of the buck came several years ago when our hunting party stopped at an Arizona crossroad where several cars were parked. It was the Monday after the season had opened Saturday and two of the parked machines bore bucks while a fairly regular cannonading resounded from the slopes about us. Our car was panting a bit from the grade, so we stopped to cool off. When we got out, we saw this character, sitting in still a third machine.

He was a Jaunty Joe, duded up fit to kiss in a whipcord riding jacket, matching breeches, highly polished riding boots, a dark gabardine shirt and a neck scarf that could have cost more than all the clothes worn by all the members of our party put together. To complete the motive, a heavy .300 Magnum rifle leaned against the seat beside him. It was pretty (the rifle, of course). I've always wanted one of those big guns—for bear. I couldn't conceive of anyone using the thing on anything less than a bear and a pretty big bear at that.

"You hunting?" I asked the fashionplate, who had smiled a polite greeting.

He shook his head negatively.

"Get your buck?" asked one of my companions.

Again he shook his head.

"Nope. Just waiting for my friends."

I suppose I looked a question for he opened up, with the manner of one who reasons 'They look like nice, understanding people. So I will tell them'.

He had walked up a rock-slide, perhaps a mile to the north and above a dense thicket. He had barely gotten to the top of it when he saw this black bear, a small one, apparently busily engaged in digging gophers out of the hillside. The dude had raised his gun and aimed. The bear was maybe 50 yards away. And then, over the rifle sights, the bear must have looked a lot bigger than the gun.

"What happened?" I asked, feeling a little sorry for him.

When he answered, his voice quavered and his lips trembled. I thought he was going to cry.

"Nothing", he said. "I just stood there thinking about it for a second and then I just turned around and sneaked back down into the timber and came to the car."

"And the bear?" asked one of my partners.

He shook his head mournfully and shivered suddenly, though the afternoon was hot.

"Still up on the hillside", hazarded the little guy, "digging whatever he was digging. I didn't look back. It scared hell out of me."

That's the buck for you. Forms 1 to 26, inclusive. But bad. ♦ ♦ ♦

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: *Please report changes of address direct to the National Rifle Association, allowing five weeks before change is to take effect. Be sure to send your old address, preferably address label from the* RIFLEMAN, *together with new address. Copies that have been mailed to an old address will not be forwarded by the Post Office unless extra postage is sent to that office by the subscriber. Avoid such expense, and make sure of getting your* RIFLEMAN *promptly each month by notifying the NRA direct, in advance of change. Address the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.*

This is the rifle which the author believes is the long-lost Chambers arm. Though only four touchhole attachments are visible, the rifle is designed to fire five shots. Loads were placed one upon the other, in the manner of a 'Roman candle.' The lock may be moved opposite each touchhole, and a magazine priming attachment is provided, to speed the firing of the 5 shots

THE FIRST U.E

By LT. COL. B. R. LEWIS

THE IDEA OF a multishot firearm has intrigued inventors since the first use of gunpowder. Most of the mechanisms they produced can be classified in one of two principal groups. The first employed two or more separate barrels, which were fired either independently or all at once. The various forms of revolving cylinders are modifications of this idea. The other group used a single barrel charged in the same manner as a Roman candle, with bullets and powder charges loaded one on top of the other. The rear charges formed a breech for those in front and the bullets acted as gas seals. Fire was conducted to the charges in sequence through a series of touchholes in the side of the barrel, or through perforated bullets.

Many efforts were made to perfect these two forms of multishot mechanism. Both were first used as early as the matchlock period. Numerous flintlock and percussion types were only minor modifications or improvements. All were doomed to be more or less hazardous and unpopular because of the loose powder involved. It was not until the invention of the metallic cartridge that multishot firearms became practical. As abortive as they may have been, however, these early attempts to make repeating arms form one of the most interesting and little-known chapters in American arms history.

Pioneer arms historian C. W. Sawyer, in his *Firearms in American History*, mentions contemporary evidence that "Frontenac in 1690 astonished the Iriquois with his three and five shot repeaters". A few pages farther along, Sawyer quotes from the *Massachusetts Historical Collection*, series 4, volume 5, that certain visiting Indians were "also entertained with the sight of a curious gun made by Mr. Pim of Boston, which once loaded was discharged eleven times following with bullets in the space of two minutes, each of which went through a double door at 50 yards distance". These arms were almost certainly Roman-candle affairs, with loads placed one on top of the other in the one barrel.

A few muzzle-loading repeating arms of this multicharge type were purchased or made at various times by the United States Government for use in the armed forces. Not much is known about these weapons, as existing records of them pertain for the most part to the promotional stage of their development and use. Perhaps they were simply disliked, a fate common to many military innovations, or maybe they all blew up. At any rate they are quite uncommon and often unidentified firearms.

During the Revolutionary War a man named Belton sold this idea to the Congress, though it is not known that any of his guns were actually made as a result:

Philadelphia April 11th 177

"To the Honorable Continental Congress
May it Please your Honors,

I would just informe this Honorable Assembly, that I have discovered an improvement, in the use of Small Armes,

THE END OF A LONG-STANDING COLLECTOR'S MYSTERY . . . AND SOME NOTES ON THE MEN WHO FIRST TRIED TO INTRODUCE REPEATING FIREARMS INTO THE UNITED STATES ARMY

U.EPEATERS

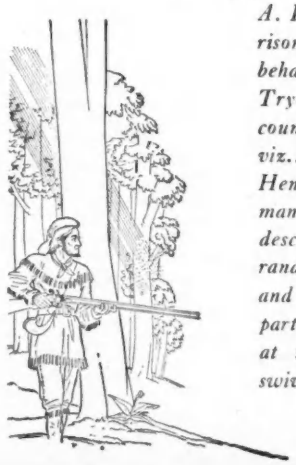
wherein a common small arm, may be maid to discharge eight balls one after another, in eight, five or three seconds of time, & each one to do execution five & twenty, or thirty yards, and after so discharg'd, to be loaded and fir'd with cartrage as (useal ?), which I am ready to prove by experimental proof, and can with eaquel ease fix them so as to discharge sixteen or twenty, in sixteen, ten or five seconds of time, which I have kept as yet a secret, thinking that in two or three Months we might have an armey thus equipt, which our enemy should know nothing of, till they should be maid to know it in the field, to their immortal sorrow—

"And if you Gentlemen are desirous to enquire into this improvement, your Humble Servant, is ready to wait upon you at any time, or place, or he may be waited on at the Widow Fords, in Walnut Street, between second & third Street.

from Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Joseph Belton"

Papers of the Continental Congress, 1, No. 41, 123-4

On May 3, 1777, Congress approved an order which read in part *". . . that Joseph Belton be authorized.....to direct the making or altering of one hundred muskets, on the construction, exhibited by him and called 'the new improved gun' which will discharge eight rounds with once loading."*



I have been unable to find billing, stores receipts, or indications of payment for these guns, but Belton must at least have had the sample he demonstrated as the basis for the original order.

The first U.S. repeating arms of which we have more concrete evidence appear to be those made during the War of 1812 for the Council of Defense of Philadelphia, under a patent (P.O. List No. 3384x) granted March 13, 1813 to Joseph G. Chambers of West Middleton, Pennsylvania. Records of the Council for the period 1814-1815 indicate that the State of Pennsylvania contracted with Chambers for the alteration of 500 muskets according to his system, to fire twelve shots each. The state also ordered 25 swivel guns, said .to have had seven barrels each. Correspondence also exists which shows that the U. S. Navy ordered 200 muskets and 20 of Chambers' repeating swivels jointly from Henry and Tryon of Philadelphia. Repeating pistols were also mentioned. The details of those weapons have long been one of American history's darkest enigmas.

The following excerpts from a hitherto overlooked reference (*100th Anniversary Catalog,* Edward K. Tryon Company, Philadelphia, 1911) shed the first ray of light on the true nature of Chambers' invention:

"In February, 1814, the Secretary of the Navy, Wm. Jones, directed George Harrison, Navy Agent at Philadelphia, to contract with reliable parties for the constructing of fifty repeating swivels and two hundred repeating muskets.

"A Mr. Joseph G. Chambers, of Pennsylvania, had patented the previous year a repeating arm that could be fired 'in such a manner that by a single operation of the trigger it will discharge several loads in succession (say six or eight), with a space between each sufficient to take another aim'. The Secretary considered them of great efficiency, and desiring to bring them into use, subsequently ordered a 'repeating swivel, or 7-barrel piece, to every 10 guns' as the regular allowance for ships of the Navy.

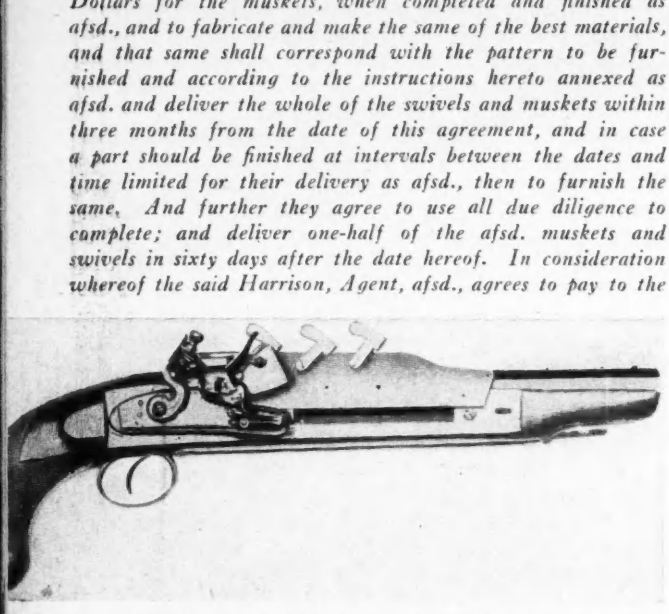
"Acting upon his authority, the Navy Agent placed a contract for twenty of the repeating swivels and two hundred muskets with George W. Tryon and John Joseph Henry, jointly.

"During his boyhood, George W. Tryon had formed a strong attachment for John Joseph Henry, then head of the old arms manufacturing firm which had borne the name of 'Henry' since 1752. The old (Tryon) books show many transactions between the old firm of Henry and the new Tryon concern, the most interesting of which is this joint contract, as follows:

Phila., Pa.

"Be it remembered that on the Sixteenth day of February, A. D. 1814. It is agreed between George Harrison, Esq., Navy Agent of the United States in behalf of the United States, and George W. Tryon and J. Joseph Henry of the city and county of Phila. in manner and form following, viz.: "The said George W. Tryon and J. Joseph Henry do agree to make in a complete workmanlike manner, twenty swivels according to the description mentioned in the annexed memorandum, furnished by Joseph G. Chambers, Esq., and also two hundred muskets of description as particularised in the afsd, memorandum annexed, at the rate of one hundred dollars for the swivels each, and at the rate of Twenty-Three

Dollars for the muskets, when completed and finished as afsd., and to fabricate and make the same of the best materials, and that same shall correspond with the pattern to be furnished and according to the instructions hereto annexed as afsd. and deliver the whole of the swivels and muskets within three months from the date of this agreement, and in case a part should be finished at intervals between the dates and time limited for their delivery as afsd., then to furnish the same. And further they agree to use all due diligence to complete; and deliver one-half of the afsd. muskets and swivels in sixty days after the date hereof. In consideration whereof the said Harrison, Agent, afsd., agrees to pay to the



Apparently a Chambers product, this four-shot repeating pistol is illustrated in Sawyer's 'Firearms in American History'. This weapon is marked 'Patent—No. 54' while the rifle (previous page) is marked 'Patent—No. 51'

said George W. Tryon and J. Joseph Henry six thousand six hundred dollars upon the due performance and completion of the afsd. contract according to the stipulations therein and in the annexed description contained.

"In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hand and seal the date and year above written . . .

"DESCRIPTION OF ARMS TO BE FABRICATED BY MESSRS. HENRY & TRYON.

"REPEATING MUSKETS

"The muskets are to be furnished with good and sufficient brass mounting of style & quality at least equal to the British Marine. The barrels of the American Calibre and somewhat stronger forward than ordinary so as to give one eighth of an inch external diameter at the foremost touchhole, ten inches from the bottom or inside. They are to be furnished with brass sights at the muzzle & iron back sights truly ranged, and the bores sufficiently straightened so as to have the most competent accuracy & effect in firing &c. The locks are to be fitted with the holes adapted to the fixture of safe guard and teller previous to being hardened and in general everything arranged so as best to accommodate the objects of the repeating fire according to the best specimen already constructed by Henry ————.

"REPEATING SWIVELS

"The swivels are to be accurately constructed by laying and securing the barrels sufficiently parallel of form & plan according to the best specimen now exhibited, with such correcting as may be agreed on &c. The standard size shall be barrels of British Marine Calibre (supposed 3 quarters of an inch) properly straightened as the muskets, four feet in length from the inside breech to muzzle. Touch hole precisely twenty inches, — external diameter of barrels five quarters of an inch making the thickness of Metal equal to ⅓ the diameter of the bore. The breech plates half inch in thickness, stems ⅞ of an inch; & handles fitted with the proper screwdriver. Knob of sound blackened wood &c. Swivels adapted so as to balance when all is together, — the crotches, keep & sockets all uniform so that wherever a socket is fixed any swivel can be mounted on it &c. Locks dul secured with strong work so as not to be materially inferio to those of Gauny & Monitzs and in general every detail w uniformly fashioned by determined patterns as may be accommodate the objects of the public service &c. as shall b mutually agreed.*

¾ inch of Bore = 75-100 the original calibre

(Signed) JOSEPH G. CHAMBERS

Philada. Feb. 16, 1814

"Mr. Chambers was appointed a sailing master, and hi two sons gunners in the Navy, to superintend the manufactur of these arms, and to have authority to instruct "a certain number of persons in the art of repeating gunnery."

"The 'repeating arms' were approved by Commodore Wm. Bainbridge, and Mr. Harrison, the Navy Agent, was directed April 18, 1814, to send fifteen repeating swivels, fifty muskets and fifty pistols to Commodore Chauncey, on the Great Lakes in order to test their use in active service.

"At the request of Commodore Rogers eight of the swivels were placed on the "Guerriere", launched at Philadelphia in 1814."

The words 'foremost touchhole' are the key to the nature of Joseph Chambers' mysterious invention. Obviously, his arms were Roman-candle weapons in which loads were rammed one upon the other and fired through a series of touchholes along the barrel.

The following contemporary references, previously published in the *Gun Collector's Letter* (Peterson, "Lost U.S. Repeating Flintlock", July 22, 1947) supply further evidence of the nature of Mr. Chambers' muskets and swivels:

"'Resolved, that the governor be authorized to contract with Joseph G. Chambers for a supply of 50 of his newly invented repeating swivels of 224 shots each, with 10 carriages and a complete apparatus of moulds, rods, & implements adapted to field service; also to contract for the alteration of 500 muskets belonging to the State in such manner as to fit them to discharge 12 shots each.'"

"Contract signed with Joseph G. Chambers of Washington County, under authority of an act of the General Assembly January 2, 1815, for the supply of 25 swivel guns with necessary apparatus, & also for the alteration of 500 muskets belonging to the State—'for the contract and bond at length see the book containing a record of contracts for making and repairing arms for the state'. So far as is known, this book has never been printed, but probably exists in manuscript in either Harrisburg or Philadelphia. January 26, 1815, Executive Minutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, (Pennsylvania Archives, Ninth Series) VI, 4231."

"'Upon consideration of a letter from Joseph G. Chambers a certificate from Mr. Gale and a letter from Mr. Thompson & other documents, the Governor was satisfied that the contract of the said Joseph G. Chambers, dated the twenty-sixth of January, 1815, for furnishing the Commonwealth with 25 of his newly invented swivel guns &ca. &ca. and apparatus has been fulfilled'. March 4, 1816, Executive Minutes, 441.

On January 31, 1815, still another contract for Chambers arms was given to Lewis Ghriskey of Philadelphia by the U. S. Army. This contract for 100 rifles is in a manuscript of 1815 ordnance contracts now in the National Archives at Washington. In a letter written in 1822 to Secretary of War John C. Calhoun, Lt. Colonel George Bomford, then on Ordnance duty, listed these as "100 patent rifles" among "purchases made under the Law of 1808, for arming the

** Probably the same as Gaunt and Monet, listed by Gardner (AMERICAN ARMS AND ARMS MAKERS) as having secured a government contract September 24, 1813 for three repeating swivels. These were probably Chambers arms.*

Militia." From this it seems likely that the rifles were purchased for use by, and at the request of, the State of Pennsylvania. In 1862, these arms were mentioned again in the proceedings of the Franklin Institute. Proposals for the construction of multishot arms were under discussion, in the course of which ". . . Mr. Nystrom detailed some experiments in repeating firearms . . . One of the members remarked that a Mr. Chalmers (sic) of West Middleton, Penna., had patented a gun on the same principle (where the barrel was filled with cartridges), which operated successfully. This is the only *post-mortem* comment known on the Chambers arms.

A five-shot Chambers flintlock rifle, believed to be one of the Ghriskey contract (it has a serial number, not usually found on arms for private sale, and is of Army caliber) is illustrated. This specimen uses a lock furnished by Ketland and has a typical "Kentucky" stock and fittings. Ketland of London had a branch shop in Philadelphia in 1815. Many Ketland locks are found on Kentucky rifles of the same period. The rifle is marked on the barrel "PATENT—No. 51" and takes the regulation one-half ounce rifle ball. Examples of the muskets or swivels are not known to me. One of the pistols is illustrated by Sawyer on Plate 28 of his *Firearms in American History*. This specimen is constructed like the rifle and is marked on the barrel "PATENT—No. 54." It has a Golcher lock, to which the Jennings' magazine link (to be described later) has been added at a later date.

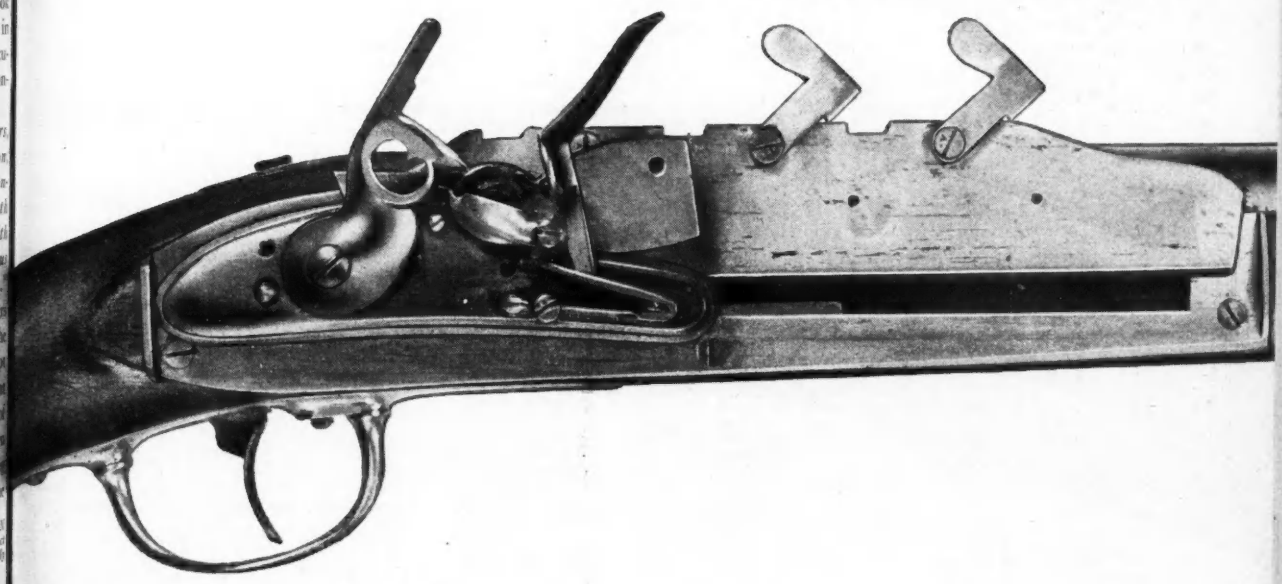
Shown also are the details of the Chambers lock. The successive loads placed in the bore of the piece have appropriately located holes for firing. The lock is mechanically spaced opposite these holes in sequence. The magazine primer consists of a small powder container which is swung back and forth over the pan for each priming. The pan and container together comprise a rotary cut-off valve. The trigger is so constructed as to act on the lock in all positions by means of a parallelogram arrangement, raising a long bar which strikes the sear. Once loaded, it was only necessary to flip the magazine primer and to cock the piece between shots. Except for the priming device (which resembles Forsythe's somewhat) the Chambers action is the same as that used on a 16th century matchlock gun; Chambers only attached the priming flask to the lock.

On September 22, 1821, J. (?) Jennings was granted a patent for an improvement on the Chambers gun. Jennings eliminated one motion by adding a bar or link connecting the hammer and priming magazine. On drawing back the hammer the pan was primed and when the hammer fell the pivoted charger was pushed forward simultaneously, clearing the pan and sealing off the priming powder remaining in the device.

There was in the U. S. Cartridge Company's collection a three-shot Jennings flintlock sporting gun with sliding lock and self-priming magazine like that on the Chambers arms. It is marked "L. Jennings, New York."

In 1828, Reuben Ellis of New York City received an ordnance contract for 520 rifles for the New York State Militia ". . . constructed upon the principles of Jennings' repeating firearms with the sliding self-priming lock and the improvements therein . . . to receive at least four charges." The Ellis contract rifles were based on the Model 1819 U.S. rifle (usually erroneously identified as the "common rifle"), using parts purchased by Ellis from contractors for that arm, i.e., Simeon North, Nathan Starr and Son, R. and J. D. Johnson, and Henry Deringer. (The "common" rifle was any muzzle-loading service rifle as distinguished from the breech-loading Hall's rifle. Official ordnance manuals called the Models 1804, 1819, and 1841 all common rifles indiscriminately. As the Model 1819 and the Hall were both adopted the same year, the distinction was first made at that time.)

Reuben Ellis of New York City was given a contract for 520 of these rifles in 1828. This example is in the museum at Springfield Armory. Another specimen, in the collection of Edwin Pugsley, is built for ten shots. These Ellis arms were assembled from standard model 1819 parts made by North and others



Whether Ellis bought parts from all these cannot be established. However, he shopped around and definitely used both Johnson and North parts. Only the locks are identifiable. The barrels of the Ellis rifles were made under a sub-contract by Johnson, who seems to have assembled them also, as Ellis had no shop facilities. A typical specimen of the contract Ellis (or Jennings) rifle is in the Museum at Springfield Armory, and is here illustrated. This rifle appears to have a pistol lock. Another specimen in the collection of Mr. Edwin Pugsley of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company has a North lock dated 1825. As it is built for ten shots it is probably not one of the Government contract weapons. However, the specifications read *"at least* four charges" so did not preclude the making of a ten-shot version to suit some officer's whim. It will be recalled that the Chambers-converted muskets ordered by Pennsylvania were described as 12-shot.

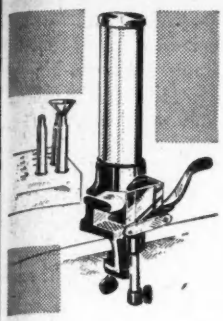
The Chambers system was quite simple to apply to a standard arm, as it needed nothing except flattening off one side of the breech and fitting the new lock, with a few simple relieving cuts taken out of the stock. The Ellis rifles, which were basically the same, were made from standard M1819 rifles. The lock was boxed in and slid along outside the level of the wood, protruding about 3/8-inch farther than the usual lock.

A few points of doubt remain. The first involves survival rate. Of the 600 or 700 arms on the Chambers principle which were delivered there appear to be only one rifle and one pistol known in collections. Compared to the Ellis rifle, this does not seem far out of line. Of the 520 delivered by Ellis only three have been seen by the author: one at Springfield Armory, one formerly in the U. S. Cartridge Company collection, and the Pugsley specimen which may well have been made outside the contract. This gives two certain specimens out of the 520 made in peacetime, 13 years after the Chambers arms. Recall also that in 1842, when the government was deciding which arms to convert to percussion, all arms then in store were classified. Those in good condition made subsequent to 1830 were considered first class and those made from 1821 to 1830 second class. The first two classes were to be converted. Those made between 1812 and 1820 were third class and held as reserve. All made before 1812, all unserviceable, and all non-standard or foreign arms were to be fourth class. These were condemned and sold as scrap. Many were bought by speculators and sold in Latin America. Thus both the date of manufacture and the type of arm acted against the retention of Chambers' weapons in store. As the 500 Pennsylvania muskets were simply conversions of the standard types, many were very likely "cannibalized" to repair standard arms.

There remains the matter of explaining one statement appearing in the Tryon 100th Anniversary Catalog. It will be recalled that, according to the Tryon account, Chambers had patented an arm that could be fired "in such a manner that by a single operation of the trigger it will discharge several loads in succession (say six or eight), with a space between each sufficient to take another aim". The exact source of this quotation is not given. The assumption is that it occurs somewhere in the Tryon archives. Probably the statement was intended to differentiate between the Chambers gun and the other type multishot, which fired several shots at once from several barrels with priming from a single pan. This of course precluded any aiming after the first pull on the trigger. The Chambers gun in contrast, by simply recocking could be aimed and fired several times. Of course, by loading the Chambers gun with perforated balls it could be made to fire the successive charges like a Roman candle "by a single operation of the trigger". This might have been desirable in the case of the swivel guns, but for a rifle or a pistol it would be disadvantageous because of flinching. The smooth-bore musket, Chambers' pattern or other, was so inaccurate, however, that it would probably have made little difference if the soldier flinched or not.

As a final note, attention should be called to the existence of a pill-lock rifle, apparently of Chambers' inspiration, in the collection of Edward K. Tryon & Co., of Philadelphia. This piece, probably dating from the early twenties of the nineteenth century, shows many points of similarity with the flintlock Chambers arms illustrated. That similarity may be construed as evidence that the flintlock too is a Tryon product, rather than an example of Ghriskey's production of Chambers' arms. It can as easily be argued that the Tryon arms, like the Ghriskey products, were actually rifles and the word "musket" as used in the Tryon and Henry document was simply a term loosely used to denote 'shoulder arm'.

This repeating pill-lock rifle, evidently of Chambers inspiration, is in the collection of Edward K. Tryon of Philadelphia. Points of similarity with the earlier Chambers rifle are obvious. These photographs, and much of the accompanying data, are given by courtesy of Ray Riling, Philadelphia, Pa.

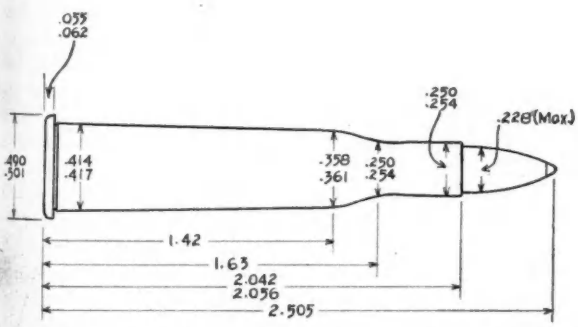


.22 HI-POWER LOADS

This article on .22 Hi-Power loads is the ninth of an important RIFLEMAN *series covering the more popular American rifle and pistol cartridges. The series so far has included "Loads for the '06"* (RIFLEMAN, *April, page 28), "Handgun Handloads" (May, page 32), ".257 Roberts Loads" (June, page 32), "Loads for the .270" (July, page 38), "Loads for the 8MM." (August, page 40), "Loads for the .30-30" (September, page 29), "Loads for the .250" (October, page 17) and "Loads for the .348" (November, page 25).*

Preparation of the material for each article was handled jointly by the NRA's Al Barr and the H. P. White Company of Cleveland, Ohio (see RIFLEMAN, *November 1948, page 21).*

Five rounds of each of the nine loads listed in Table I were checked for average velocity figures and the loads were tested for pressure in a M99 Savage barrel of .221-inch bore diameter, 228-inch groove diameter, 24 inches long, in a Modern-Bond Universal receiver using Winchester copper crushers with variation in length controlled to .001 inch and Winchester garage tables. Velocities were measured on a Potter electronic counter chronograph. Room temperature was maintained at 77 degrees.



Drawing shows maximum and minimum dimensions of the .22 Hi-Power cartridge. Figures are averages of measurements of ten commercial loads

HISTORICALLY, the .22 Savage Hi-Power was the first of an extensive list of high-velocity cartridges in .22 caliber. At the time of its introduction (summer, 1912) its nearest competitor was the 6-mm. Lee Navy, which pushed a 112-grain bullet at a rated muzzle velocity of 2571 feet per second. The .22 Savage was first offered with a 70-grain bullet at 2700 feet per second. The cartridge was designed by Charles Newton for the Savage Arms Company, which introduced it as an additional caliber for their already popular model 99 lever-action rifle. The case is essentially that of the .25-35 WCF necked down to .22 caliber.

It is interesting to note early advertisements of this gun and cartridge. E. C. Crossman called it 'the biggest little gun in the world'. This was not an exaggeration since the rifle weighed only six and one-quarter pounds. Early publicity claimed 100 feet per second higher velocity than the .30-'06; that the 'Imp', as it was called, cut the height of .30-'06 trajectory in half; that it doubled the accuracy range on large game; that it had shocking and killing power exceeding that of the .30-30. These advertisements also pictured a six-foot bear killed with the 70-grain bullet. While undoubtedly true, these statements gave the false impression that it was a big-game cartridge. Three years later, when Savage introduced another of their cartridges, they made the statement that the .250-3,000 was truly a big-game load, and that the .22 Hi-Power was, after all, only a deer cartridge. Today even that statement will bear questioning.

In reality the .22 Hi-Power, like any other light-bullet .22-caliber load, is easily deflected from its course by twigs and other obstacles in brush or wooded country. Likewise the light bullet will frequently disintegrate on large bones and fail to give a clean kill.

The .22 Hi-Power was one of the few native American cartridges to enjoy European popularity to the extent of being a stock item of German manufacturers. It was known as the 5.6 x52R and was used mostly for the hunting of European gazelle and goat. Deutsche Waffen u. Munitionsfabriken (DWM) assigned to this cartridge their pattern number 545.

Handloads for the .22 Savage Hi-Power are limited. In the first place, the cartridge is not particularly accurate. Undoubtedly one of the reasons is that little development has been conducted to get us as good bullets of .227-inch diameter as we now have in those of regular .224-inch diameter. Secondly, by using bullets lighter than the 70 grain we defeat our purpose except for small-game loads and even then other .22's are superior because they are more accurate. Even Charles Newton, who designed this cartridge, insisted that a heavier bullet weighing 90 grains would have been better. Bullets lighter than the 70-grain, which is the only one available commercially, are too short for their diameter. They lose velocity rapidly and are not particularly accurate. However, R. B. Sisk at one time made .227-inch bullets weighing 55 and 63 grains. As will be noted in Table 1, the 55-grain Sisk bullet gave reasonably good velocity but when the handloader stays within safe pressure limits its speed is well below what can be obtained with the .220 Swift and similar cartridges.

The accuracy of the .22 Hi-Power has often been criticized. We do know that it can be accurate, as has been proved with the high-velocity wildcat version known as the .228 Ackley Magnum. The big problem, though, is still good bullets.

As already mentioned, early promotion advertising of this cartridge labelled it as suitable for big-game hunting. When the 70-grain bullet is boosted in velocity, as it is to about 3,600 feet per second in the .228 Ackley Magnum, it is truly a fine

Manufacturers' Specifications for .22 Hi-Power

70 grain soft point

Velocity Foot Seconds	
Muzzle	2780
100 yards	2480
200 yards	2200
300 yards	1940
Striking Energy, Foot Pounds	
Muzzle	1200
100 yards	955
200 yards	755
300 yards	585
Midrange Trajectory, Height, Inches	
100 yards	0.6
200 yards	3.0
300 yards	7.0
Sighting-in Iron Sights, Inches	
50 yards	0.6 high
100 yards	on aim
200 yards	4.5 low
300 yards	17.0 low

cartridge for big game up to and including elk. This has been proved on many occasions. We have had a number of loads in this caliber which, when zeroed one inch high at 100 yards, would be on aim at 200, 5 to 6 inches low at 300, and 17 to 19 inches low at 400 yards. This, in effect, adds at least another 100 yards to the practical range of the .22 Savage Hi-Power. In the .228 Ackley Magnum, it is the lightest bullet which will give uniform and consistent performance on deer, black bear and similar game. In the .22 Hi-Power at the lower velocity, though, it is definitely on the borderline, especially when one considers the average accuracy obtained with the cartridge.

Too, the trajectory of the Hi-Power supposedly was only half of that obtained with the .30-'06 cartridge. Since the commercial load, as indicated in Table 1, gives only 2,764 feet-per-second velocity or just about what we would get with the old 150-grain .30-'06 load, it is obvious to those who have done any drop shooting that the trajectory over 300 yards would be practically the same for the two cartridges. Certainly the .22 Hi-Power has never lived up to early claims either in the way of accuracy or dependability, on big game or otherwise.

Since no lever-action rifle other than the Savage model 99 has been made to handle the .22 Hi-Power, we have often wondered why a maximum pressure level of 44,000 pounds has been established for this cartridge. When a cartridge is used in some of the older, weaker lever-action rifles, then of necessity the recommended pressure level must be low as a safety factor. However, since the model 99 rifle is regularly made up for the .250 and .300 Savage cartridges, both of which have much higher working pressure levels in commercial loads, there is little reason why the Hi-Power cannot be loaded to the slightly higher pressure figures which we have indicated in Table 1. In fact, every load which we tried would come within the pressure limits permissible with the .250 or .300 Savage calibers used in the same model 99 rifle. Certainly there is not enough difference in the back thrust caused by increased head diameter of the cartridge to cause any trouble. Further, the .22 Hi-Power case is a relatively strong one and, when made up into wildcats, has proved safe at much higher levels of pressure. For that reason, in any good model 99 lever-action rifle, every load in the list should be safe, although we indicate that some have been developed for use in bolt-action rifles.

Loads four and six are the maximum recommended powder charges given in the DuPont loading handbook published some years ago. These loads, according to present tolerances for the Hi-Power, are excessive by several thousand pounds. Every load, though, has been used safely in many lever-action model 99 rifles.

Factory .22 Hi-Power loads do not exceed 44,000 pounds pressure. One of the safest handloads, duplicating or slightly exceeding factory ballistics, would be number seven, using 4350 powder. Although this is a compressed load, the slow-burning 4350 powder gave a low pressure figure in relation to velocity.

Most bulletmakers furnish only a 70-grain .22 Hi-Power bullet to be used in the 12-inch rifling twist common for this caliber. There is a Speer 75-grain bullet which performs equally well in the same twist. Maximum loads as listed for the 70-grain should be cut at least one grain when this bullet is used. A new design of bullet for this caliber has recently been made up by P. O. Ackley and Company, 160 Elm Street, Trinidad, Colorado. The bullet is designed with a heavy, solid base section and an expanding nose section. The construction leads us to believe that it will expand properly at any reasonable velocity, from that obtained with the .22 Hi-Power up to that of the .228 Ackley Magnum. With this new bullet the .228 Ackley Magnum should show wonderful killing qualities on game as large as bear and even elk.

As the .22 Savage is not particularly popular, especially from the handloading standpoint, and because it may some day be obsolete, there are not too many cast bullets available for it. Hensley & Gibbs have one which is their number 62 gas-check weighing 60 grains. The Cramer Bullet Mold Company has another, number 59S, weighing *(Continued on page 51)*

Table 1: Velocity and Pressures of .22 Hi-Power Loads

Load	Weight (grains)	Bullet type	Bullet diameter (inch)	Seating depth (inch)	Charge (grains)	Powder type	Lot No.	Primer	Case make	Velocity 20 feet	Pressure	Remarks
1	55 Sisk	S.P.	.227	.22	29.0	3031	88	WE 8½	West.	3278	46,020	Bolt action only
2	55 Sisk	S.P.	.227	.22	30.0	4895	27277	WE 8½	West.	3275	47,420	Bolt action only
3	55 Sisk	S.P.	.227	.22	32.0	4320	20	WE 8½	West.	3298	48,620	Bolt action only
4	70 Western	S.P.	.228	.39	27.0	3031	88	West. 8½	West.	2990	46,775	Bolt action only
5	70 Western	S.P.	.228	.39	28.0	4895	27277	West. 8½	West.	2923	44,740	Max. for lever action
6	70 Western	S.P.	.228	.39	30.0	4320	20	West. 8½	West.	3048	48,380	Bolt action only
7	70 Western	S.P.	.228	.39	31.0	4350	10	West. 8½	West.	2818	39,920	Compressed load.
8	70 Factory	S.P.								2764	40,800	

Save That Trophy!

Canadian moose

BY ELMER KEITH

EACH FALL thousands of big-game trophies are ruined through carelessness and ignorance on the part of the hunter. Many inexperienced hunters go out for big game without guides, without proper tools, and even without salt for curing their trophies. At times a competent guide may be incapacitated through an accident, or may be too busy trailing lost pack stock to attend properly to the trophies. If big-game heads are worth the time and expense spent in their taking, then surely they deserve careful preparation and curing, so they will ultimately reach the taxidermist in perfect condition.

Every hunter should know how to skin and cure his own trophies. Then, if necessary, he can do it himself; also, he will be in a position to supervise the work, and to judge the ability of his guide.

First let us take up the actual skinning of the various species. The only tools necessary are a sharp knife and a small oil or emery stone to keep it that way. A good sheath knife with a wide, curved blade of not over five inches in length is best for peeling heavy hides, while for the smaller species such as deer and antelope a good jackknife or small sheath knife with a fairly short, narrow blade is sufficient. When skinning around horns, eyes and lips, such a small blade is absolutely necessary for good work. Plenty of fine first-grade table salt is the next essential and, if combined with perfect skinning and enough elbow grease, will properly cure any trophy.

With all horned or other game wanted for head mounts, the skin of the entire neck, front of shoulders and brisket, as well as the head cape itself must be taken off in one piece. *Never cut the throat.* To do so ruins any cape and about as much blood will be drained from the carcass as would be obtained by cutting off the tail. After being shot with a high-power rifle, no game animal will bleed worth a whoop from having its throat cut, so dispense with any throat cutting. The blood will be found clotted in the chest cavity anyway.

First, dress the animal by removing all abdominal and chest cavity contents, but do not split farther forward than the rear of the front shoulders. Next turn the beast on its belly, with the head extended forward the full extent of the neck. Now rip straight up the back of the neck from a point on the forward portion of the withers, to a point some three to five inches from the base of the horns, depending on the size of the animal. Then from this point make a separate cut out to the base of each horn, leaving a V-

White (Dall) sheep

Arizona whitetail

Famed Denver taxidermist Guy Jonas skinning an antelope. Dotted line shows correct cut up back of neck. Note extreme cape length for shoulder mount

Here skin has been freed from base of horns, and Jonas tackles ticklish job of separating skin from eyes. Both inner and outer eyelids remain on skin

shaped flap of skin extending over the back of the skull to the end of the neck incision. Next, from the top of the withers cut down along the shoulder on each side in a straight line that will leave all the skin from the front of the shoulder on the neck skin as well as at least six inches of the brisket. The front legs should be pulled back along the belly and the cut run right across the shoulder leaving all the short-haired skin of the hollow between brisket and shoulder on the neck skin. Extend this cut from the top of the withers clear around the beast and back to the starting point. This completes all the ripping necessary on any horned trophy desired for a head mount. Only by the inclusion of shoulder and brisket skin can the taxidermist give you a proper shoulder mount.

The shoulder, brisket and neck should then be skinned forward to the head, when the neck can be unjointed at the skull. The head can then be turned much easier for the skinning of the skull if you are alone, or if you desire to pack out the head and cape intact and complete the job in camp. Next, sever the skin from the base of the horns, being very careful to leave no portion of skin or hair on the horn bases. You want all that skin on the cape, not on the skull. A good husky screwdriver is often very handy to pry heavy skins away from the horn bases after the cut around the base of horn is completed. Cut off the ears next to the head and close enough that only a small orifice is left in the skin when removed. We will come back to them later. Then peel around the cheeks and front of skull until the eye sockets are reached. Here we must be very careful. Insert a finger into the eye from the outside and peel out the eye socket. Then cut far enough above and around it to insure leaving *all* of the eyelid, both external and internal, on the head skin. The knife should slowly pare the bone at this point until the eyelids are peeled free. Next, on most species, we have a deep tear duct just below the eye and on many old bucks a small bead will be encrusted in this pocket. Great care must be used in digging out carefully all the skin of this pocket.

After the eye sockets and tear ducts are completed, peel the skin on down until the back of the teeth are reached. Then one should pinch up the side of each cheek between thumb and forefinger and cut clear through back of the skin to the teeth. Next make a cut along the line of the teeth as you skin on down toward the nose, leaving all the inner lip lining on the head skin. Do the same when the nose is reached and leave plenty of the inside of each nostril on the head skin until the cape is finally severed from the skull.

Now spread the cape out and start trimming the ears. All surplus meat and cartilage at the base of the ears should be severed until a small hole appears at the very orifice of the ear. Next, the skin on the back of each ear must be peeled loose and free from the cartilage without making a single cut through said skin. Work slowly and peel a little at a time, then pry the skin loose from the cartilage and proceed until the entire ear is turned wrong side out, and with the cartilage still adhering to the skin of the inside of the ear. Be sure to leave no portion of the tip of the ear unskinned. The ears are very pointed on antelope and goats and you must turn them wrong side out to their extreme tips so the salt can get in its work and prevent spoilage and loss of hair.

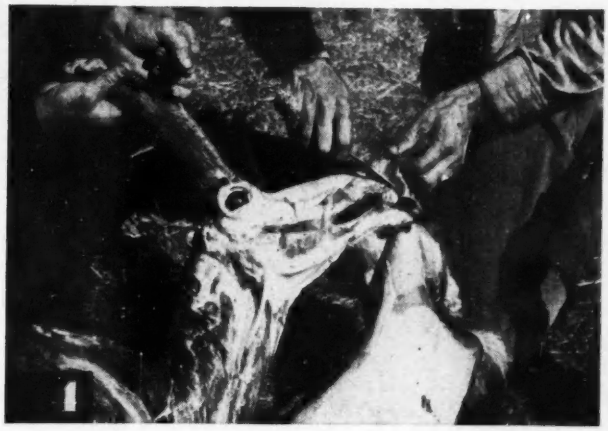
Next, the eyes. The inner membrane of skin should be split loose from the outer portion of the eyelid, working always toward the orifice of the eye, but being careful not to cut through at any point. Merely separate the inner lid from the outer and leave it all in one piece with no undue thickness at any point so the salt will penetrate.

Next we come to the nose and lips. The inner skin of the nostrils should also be peeled away from the outer skin until one reaches the extreme edges of the lips. Leave plenty of this inner nostril and lip skin adhering to the outer skin as the taxidermist needs it to shape the nostrils and to sew together in the case of the lips before making final mounting. If the mount is to have an open mouth as in the case of a bull elk bugling or a cat or lion rug, this inner lip skin must then be tacked and glued around the teeth to set up the inside of the mouth for a natural appearance.

When all surplus flesh is carefully pared from the cape and the ears, eyes, nostrils and lips are properly split out,

Contrary to popular opinion, skinning game head is not a bloody job. Care is necessary at this stage to leave plenty of lip skin for the taxidermist

Final cut frees head skin at nose. After this, lips, ears and eyelids are split so salt can penetrate. Once cured, skin will last indefinitely



take fine table salt and spread an even coat, one-fourth-inch thick, over every portion of the flesh side. Carefully rub and work the salt into every corner, wrinkle and pore of the skin. Be sure to put plenty on the base of the ears and around the lips and nostrils, rubbing it into the skin itself. Then fold the cape up and allow the brine to form and soak into every portion of the skin for 24 hours. After that the cape can be spread in a cool dry place to cure. Be sure the sun never touches it, or it will be burned. When thoroughly or nearly dry the skin can be rolled up and sacked in burlap bags, where the air will circulate freely, and hung in a cool dry place until shipped to the taxidermist.

With game having hollow hair—sheep, antelope and deer—every possible care should be exercised and it is best to remove the cape and the head from the animal as soon as killed rather than attempt to haul or pack the animal intact. Antelope are the worst offenders and their brittle hair is very easily broken; also, it will slip from the skin very easily even on a freshly-killed animal. Never attempt to drag a fine trophy out or to pull a pack rope across the cape or you will seriously damage the hair. Once the cape is skinned back to the head and the latter unjointed, then the cape can be rolled up with skin side out and packed without danger of damaging the hair. Be sure to wash bloodstains from all hollow-haired capes. Otherwise it will dry inside the hollow hair and be almost impossible to remove.

Caribou, moose and elk capes are much more durable and once they have been skinned from the carcass can be handled with impunity as far as breaking hair is concerned. They possess a great thickness, however, and require much more salt than the thinner capes of the smaller species. If time permits, it is well to shave this extra skin thickness down from the flesh side, but to do a perfect job one needs a currier's knife or a draw knife and a good beam which is seldom at hand in camp. If all surplus flesh and fat is removed from elk, caribou and moose skins and enough salt rubbed in and allowed to form into a brine which penetrates the entire skin, it will cure and keep these heavy capes indefinitely. Be sure to turn or split open the bell on moose and rub the flesh side full of table salt or this portion will spoil and lose its hair. Also the thick, heavy lips of these species must be properly split and all surplus tissue pared away, leaving only the outer and inner skin intact, before the salt will penetrate and cure them.

Pare all meat and fat from the skull; remove and clean the lower jaw. Remove all inner mouth lining and all the jaw muscles. Cut and scrape until only the clean bare bone is left. This is a very slow, tedious job. Some boil the skulls, which facilitates the task but in the case of bear or lion skulls will also loosen, crack or otherwise ruin the teeth. Do not boil skulls of any carnivores.

A brain spoon can be made from a small iron rod, by heating and pounding out a small hook on one end to tear the brain membranes loose from the skull, and a small cup-shaped spoon on the other end. With this simple tool one can then go in through the spinal cavity into the brain and tear and spoon it all out of the skull, without sawing away any portion of the skull itself. In the case of bear and cougar you may want all of that skull for measurements.

After all traces of the brain and membranes are hooked and spooned out of the cavity, throw a handful of salt into the cavity and shake it around until all portions are covered. This will cure the inside of the skull. If pepper is added, it will also discourage flies.

Skulls can be hung above a smudge fire in camp and the smoke will further cure them while keeping flies away. Never lay either capes or skulls loose around camp as some small carnivore may drag them off in the night. Always hang them up and preferably wire them to a limb as well.

While you are skinning out heads and curing capes is a good time to insure having some fine meat for winter feasts. Even on long pack trips, one can cure the hams of a ram and take them home so the family can enjoy the finest of all meat. Unjoint the hams from the rump, remove the foot, then sew the hams up in clean empty flour sacks so that the cloth closely adheres to the meat at all portions of the ham. Then make a brine strong enough to float a spud or an egg. This brine

should then be brought to the boiling point in a dutch oven, dishpan or other camp kettle. When the brine is boiling immerse the ham for a full two minutes. Three will not hurt if it is a large one. If necessary dip one end and then the other in the boiling brine. Then hang the cloth-covered ham in a cool shady place. Keep it out in the open air as much as possible and a crust of salt will form over the entire surface.

This photograph of a partially skinned elk killed by the author shows enormous length of cape necessary for full shoulder mount. Note that mass of fat remains where it belongs, on the carcass.

Elmer Keith (foreground) cleaning bear skulls in the rain at Snug Harbor, Alaska. For best mount, whole skull should be saved for taxidermist. Even if not used, he can get exact measurements from it.

This seals the meat perfectly, and a ham so cured will keep for months in a cool, airy place. Once so cured, it can be hauled home in good shape if wrapped in canvas and kept fairly cool.

Lastly, let us take up the preparation of bear and cat skins. In skinning, make a cut from the rectum forward to the base of the jaws. Slit out from there to the corner of the mouth on one side only. Next split from a point between the forelegs from the central split out to the pad on each forefoot. Do the same with the hind legs, being careful to leave considerable skin from the back of the hind legs on the outside of the main skin. Follow the hairline around the foot pads with your ripping knife, leaving the pads on the feet. Skin the legs and unjoint the feet from the leg so they can be peeled back to best advantage to the base of the toe pads. Leave the toe pads on the skin but peel back the skin and unjoint the claws leaving all the toe bones on the foot. Split the bottom of the tail from rectum to its tip. Follow the same procedure with the ears and lips as described for the capes of horned game.

In skinning bear, seal, beaver or walrus, the best time to do a proper fleshing job is in the actual skinning. Use a sharp knife and skin carefully, leaving all the surplus fat where it belongs, on the carcass. It is much easier to skin the animal properly in the first place than later to remove the surplus tough fatty tissue from the skin. Turn the ears, split the lips, and pare away every trace of surplus fat and tissue. Next, spread the skin out and cover the flesh side with a layer of fine table salt one-fourth-inch thick if you have that much salt. If salt is scarce, carefully rub what you have into every pore and fold of the skin. I once saved a fine grizzly pelt with just three pounds of table salt. We rubbed it into every portion of the skin and the pelt arrived at Jonas Brothers, some two months later, in perfect condition.

The skin from the toe pads to end of claws should be filled with table salt to insure its soaking into every portion of the toe skin. If all flesh is removed and the salt is properly rubbed into the skin and then the brine forms and is allowed to soak through the skin before drying on a frame in a cool, shady place, the pelt will keep indefinitely.

Be sure not to leave the skin in the sun or it will be grease burnt and utterly ruined. Many bear skins are ruined by failure to skin out the ears, split the lips and skin out feet and claws than by any other cause. If not properly skinned out before drying, they often sour and lose the hair. Even though they look all right when they reach the taxidermist, he must then soak and relax them before he can ever hope to properly skin them out and this usually will cause the hair to slip. Then the long-suffering taxidermist is always blamed, when in reality only the hunter is to blame for loss of the skin.

A visit to any big taxidermist's shop after the hunting season and a careful discussion of the problem with him will always prove enlightening. He will show you plenty of improperly skinned trophies that he is expected to turn into perfect mounts. He will also show you capes with the throat cut, or with skin of neck only and an order for a shoulder mount. The taxidermist cannot do the impossible, and is usually blamed for any defect in the finished mount. Follow his instructions carefully. ◆ ◆ ◆

BY R. C. WOLF

Been hunting lately? Things sure have changed in the last couple of dozen years . . .

CHOOSING A SPORTER

TIME WAS when a rifle, a saddle, a straight razor and a pocket knife were strictly utilitarian objects that any boy worth his salt had acquired or simply showed up with somewhere between the ages of ten and fourteen. Failure carried the same social stigma as cutting out paper dolls, chronic bed wetting and being teacher's pet.

These items, mostly ancient and decrepit, were rated by their history and their performance in the hands of their owners. Showy new beauty was unthought of and all questions concerning ballistics and killing power were settled by looking in the owner's game bag. Things ain't like that no more.

So you didn't get a deer last year? Lots of us didn't. Why? It couldn't have been over three hundred yards across that hollow and he was running up hill. Anybody should have hit him every shot—they say so nearly every month in the RIFLEMAN. Surely you can shoot as well as the next guy. You're just naturally good at things, so it must have been that no-good gun. There's nothing wrong with your shooting. Just get the right gun. You'll show them.

Go right down to Joe Blow's sporting-goods emporium—good old Joe, he's a fellow Rotarian and an expert on hunting. Just ask him. Of course Joe hasn't been hunting lately. Too busy, and besides his wife likes Miami, but that doesn't keep him from knowing all about it, no sir.

Look at her. Ain't she a beauty? Only six and a half pounds. And tough? Wrecked six other guns in testing. Finally made her give up by welding the muzzle shut, filling the barrel with dynamite caps and giving her a blue-pill load behind an eight millimeter slug. Some gun. Thirty-O-six. Everybody says it's the best for deer. Get ammo anywhere, nice variety of loads and bullets, can't beat it. Price? Only two-eighty-six-seventeen including tax. Of course the regular model is only ninety-nine-ninety-seven—we don't have one in stock right now—but you wouldn't want it without the scope, recoil pad and micrometer receiver peep sight for bad weather. Of course not. Wrap it up? Yes sir.

Now you've got it, look out deer. With a rig like this you can't miss. Take it down to Gus Gunsill's gun shop and get it sighted in. Gus is a grouchy old goat but the best gunsmith in town—he says.

What ya got in the box? What kinda gun? Remchester seventy-one? Oh lordy! You want I should try to hit the backstop with it? Okay, for you I'll do it. For anybody else

I wouldn't open the box. Bought it from Blow? He must'a seen ya comin'. Ugh. Look at that spy-glass! He's been trying to hook somebody with it for two years. Oh well, you can give it to the kids to play with, but don't try to shoot with it. Boy! You got took bad, but seein' you're a friend of mine I'll save you all I can. The barrel, if it was steel, would make a good butt joint for a fly rod, but it ain't. The stock, if it wasn't waterlogged, would make nice punk sticks, but it is. The action is not too bad, almost as good as an Enfield. With about two days work I can make it do. The receiver peep you won't use too often, but if you do it ain't much—been three new models since it. Good thing you stopped by here before you went hunting. You might have tried to use it like it is.

This'll probably cost you another fifty or seventy-five, but you can't get results without equipment. Didn't think old Joe would do that to you. Oh well, a guy's got to eat. This year you've got to get a deer, and do it yourself. That no-good brother-in-law of yours is going with you and don't forget the speculative look he passed you in forty-seven. The time your wife showed the battered old forty-four slug she had dug out of that antelope. Then there's the taxidermist that mounted the moose head you brought back from Canada. How were you to know it had been shot in the eye with a twenty-two. He and Gus Gunsil drink beer together and are as thick as two thieves. Yes sir, you're in a tough spot. Won't do to hurry Gus. Give him a couple of extra days.

Like it, huh? Heavy? Not much, only seventeen pounds without the scope. Lighterbarrel? No! These hot modern jobs won't group in a washtub at twenty-five yards with a light barrel. If you want to go hunting you got to carry a gun. Might as well stay home if you don't. Scope? Yeah, latest thing, seven-and-a-half-power, coated, gas filled, graduated reticule, all adjustments in the mount, on and off with one hand, only one in the county, I got friends. Stock? Pretty, ain't it? Those red-white-and-blue inserts, the white recoil pad and red plastic caps on the grip and fore end kinda set off the curly maple, don't they? Comb? Just right for the scope, a little high for the iron sights, if you hold it tight it won't hurt you—much. Black eye? Yeah, I'm always bumpin' into things. Action? Naw, couldn't use it, threads galled when I took the barrel off, didn't have no recoil lugs either, this baby needs them, got a good Enfield, a bargain, reworked it myself, smooth.

This is going to be worse than you thought, may cost you a hundred bucks, but don't argue with Gus, pay him and get out.

How much? Only three hundred twelve dollars and six cents. Lotta money? For anybody else it would be four hundred, nice gun, only one like it. Box of shells? I got three. You want I should make some more? 30-'06? Not any more it ain't, .243 BUM, only one like it, BUM means blowed-up magnum—.300 magnum necked down and blowed up, knock a squirrel's eye out at one thousand yards if you can hit it. I got five more cases. You want I should make them for you. Kick? Yeah, it needs a muzzle brake, without it I think one shell is all you want. No? Okay, it's your shoulder. If I hadn't warned you, I'd feel bad.

If you take it hunting you'll have to shoot it. Gad! What a cannon! All it needs is wheels. You know you wouldn't fire that shiny monstrosity for all the deer in Texas. There's not much traffic, and the river's pretty deep. Thank your lucky stars you didn't tell anyone you'd bought it. Now try to remember which pawn shop had that old thirty-two-twenty in the window. ♦ ♦ ♦

U. S. Pistolmen in Buenos Aires:

As this issue of the RIFLEMAN went to press, the 12-man United States rifle and pistol squad was well into the international match schedule at Buenos Aires. Here pistolmen Logie, Reeves, Bornman, Benner, Toney and Hancock are photographed just prior to the opening of the 21-nation competition at November 4. For results up to press time, turn to Ray Stann's 'Spotting Scope', page 60. A full story will appear in the January RIFLEMAN. ♦ ♦ ♦

SOMETHING NEW FROM SWITZERLAND

Continued from page 33

An additional improvement was made in the form of a long hammer spur on some pistols at least.

On the Neuhausen pistol, both the front and rear sights are adjustable for windage, but not elevation. The sights are of the Patridge type. One excellent feature about this pistol is the simplicity of disassembly. Its slide comes off similarly to that of an M1911 .45 Colt. One well-designed feature is the hammer and sear assembly, which lifts out as pictured in Figures 1 and 2. This is really an advantage, especially if you have to teach soldiers about the care and cleaning of a pistol.

The bluing is of excellent quality, and the pistol functions exceptionally well. Since the pistol is now made to shoot the 7.65- and 9-mm. Parabellum (.30 and 9-mm. Luger) cartridges, I purchased a barrel, including a recoil spring with guide, for each of the cartridges mentioned, which allows me to have one pistol in two calibers.

I have fired many different makes of 9-mm. Parabellum ammunition in this pistol, which includes all of the types of 9-mm. cartridges a large German ammunition depot would contain. Even the German steel-case and iron-bullet ammunition functions well, though the use of this type of ammunition in such a fine pistol is not recommended. As to accuracy, it is excellent.

One thing I don't like is the double pull on the trigger. To European shooters this is considered of utmost importance for fine target shooting, but not to an American. As a military-type trigger pull, it is excellent. Of course a little expert gunsmithing could easily change this.

How much did it cost? I paid three hundred Swiss Francs ($72.00) for the gun and 41.25 francs for the extra barrel, extra magazine, and some spare parts. Being an ordnance officer, I always pick up the spare parts.

All in all, the Neuhausen pistol is today believed to be one of the best designed and accurately manufactured pistols on the foreign market.

Here, finally, is the technical data on the pistol:

Type	47/8	47/8
Caliber (Parabellum)	7.65 mm.	9 mm.
Length of barrel	4¾ inches	4¾ inches
Number of lands in bore	4	6
Rifling, right-hand twist, one turn in	9.8 inches	9.8 inches
Initial velocity, feet per second	1200	1148
Number of cartridges in magazine	8	8
Weight without cartridge magazine	33 ounces	33 ounces
Weight with empty magazine	35.3 ounces	35.3 ounces
Weight with full magazine	38.3 ounces	38.3 ounces
Length of pistol	8.27 inches	8.27 inches
Height of pistol	5.32 inches	5.32 inches
Width of pistol	1.25 inches	1.25 inches
Penetration of bullet in fir wood at 50 meters	5.7 inches	5.7 inches
50 percent dispersion 16 shots at 50 meters	2.95 inches	3.15 inches

.22 HI-POWER LOADS

Continued from page 44

62 grains. Like the Hensley it is a semi-round-nose gas-check bullet. Modern Bond shows a plain-base bullet (A228812) weighing 67 grains and another weighing 53 grains (A228687). A heavier bullet in the same style weighs 82 grains (A228938). The Ideal bullet for this caliber is No. 228367, weighing 60 grains.

Some of the better loads for the 60-grain gas-check bullets are 13 grains of DuPont 4759, giving around 2000 foot-seconds velocity, and 12 grains of Sharpshooter, at nearly the same velocity. Another good load is 11 to 12 grains of 2400. For a lighter load, 6.5 grains of Hercules Unique will give close to 1700 foot-seconds. This should be a good load for squirrel or small-game shooting.

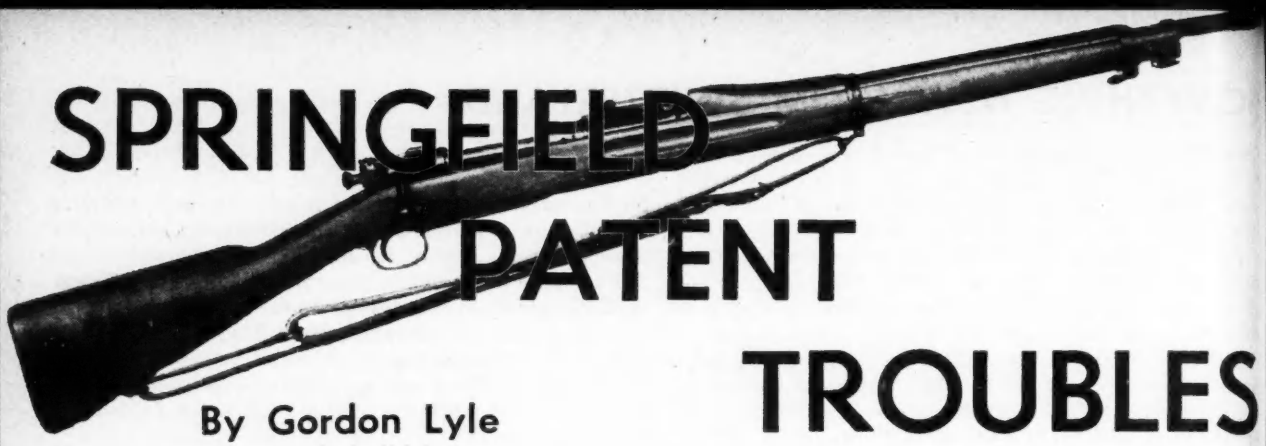
Jacketed bullets for the .22 Hi-Power run all of the way from .2265-inch diameter up to .228 inch for the commercial 70-grain bullets. The Sisk bullets usually run a little smaller or .2265- to 227-inch diameter. Lead-alloy bullets should be sized .228- to .229-inch diameter and the cartridge cases should be trimmed to a maximum length of 2.05 inch. For light lead-bullet loads the Remington No. 2½ pistol primer should be best, especially with 4759 powder. For full power loads the Western 8½, Remington 8½ or Winchester 115 are correct.

Even .224-inch bullets have been used successfully in the .22 Hi-Power, although they are much smaller than groove diameter. Naturally, when using a small diameter bullet of equivalent weight the recommended powder charge can safely be used and the load increased gradually. One of the most consistent combinations I have used was a .22-250 rifle of .228-inch groove diameter with 60-grain .224-inch bullets. I obtained very fine accuracy. The bullet apparently upset enough to take the rifling well and give good performance.

A few experimenters have built bolt-action rifles for the .22 Hi-Power and some of them have reported rather fine performance. Some of the heavier loads indicated might, in such rifles, give fine accuracy. That would mean using a 70-grain bullet in the .228 Hi-Power at nearly the same velocity we get with a 55-grain bullet in the .219 Zipper. Such a combination should shoot as accurately as the Zipper cartridge.

NEXT MONTH: Headlining the January 1950 issue will be a full report of the United States rifle and pistol squad at Buenos Aires . . . carrying on from the brief, press-time results on page 60, this issue. Also, look for an informative discussion, in pictures and text, of three gunsmithing schools . . . who runs them, what is taught, length of courses, costs, housing arrangements . . . based on a recent visit by a Rifleman writer-photographer team. To round out the issue, loads for the .22 Hornet, and E. B. Mann on multi-purpose rifles for the Southwest.

SPRINGFIELD PATENT TROUBLES



By Gordon Lyle

AMONG the untold thousands of soldiers and civilian shooters to whom the Springfield rifle has been a weapon to swear by for accuracy and dependability, relatively few know of the patent difficulties experienced by the Army Ordnance Department shortly after that grand rifle and the M1906 .30-caliber ammunition were adopted. Though many books have been written about the Springfield rifle, most are of a technical nature and references to the patent troubles seem to have been made mainly in reports that circulated within the service. The true picture has always remained vague and indistinct, even to old employees in the Ordnance Department itself. The story of the transactions between the American government and the German interests that held legal patent rights to certain parts of the M1903 Springfield rifle and the five-round cartridge clips does not seem to have been told heretofore; neither has the story of the German who claimed the M1906 bullet infringed a U. S. dimensional patent that had been issued to him—a claim that was stubbornly contested for nearly a quarter of a century even though the life of the claimant's patent had expired before the case was ended.

During the years 1900 to 1903 the Ordnance Department had developed at Springfield Armory a bolt-action weapon along the lines of the German Mauser rifle in use in the German Army. Early in the process of development it turned out that some of the Springfield parts fell within the claims listed in the U. S. patents held by the Waffenfabrik Mauser Company of Wurtemberg, Germany. When the officials of the Ordnance Department discovered this situation General William Crozier, then Chief of Ordnance, requested the Mauser Company to send a representative to discuss the points at issue and determine the amount of royalties that would compensate the owners for use of their patents.

Though Army Ordnance, after 1904, voluntarily paid a royalty on each Springfield clip, Germans obtained $412,520.55 more in 1931

General Crozier's letter-invitation went forward from Washington under date of March 15, 1904, and on May 2 Mr. A. C. Fraser, the Mauser Company's American patent counsel, arranged to borrow a Springfield rifle and a five-round clip to study. About the middle of June 1904, the Ordnance Department was told two clip patents were being infringed and five Mauser rifle patents were involved. A royalty of one dollar per thousand clips and one dollar per rifle was suggested. It was also mentioned the patent owners would be willing to leave the decision to the U. S. Court of Claims under the provisions of section 12 of the so-called "Tucker Act." The counselor for the Mauser Company was assured the Ordnance Department meant to play fair in the matter and the subject was not mentioned thereafter. However, since the Comptroller of the U. S. Treasury Department was responsible for the proper negotiation of all Government contracts, the Comptroller was frequently consulted until the agreement in its final form was approved. In April 1905, Hon. R. J. Tracewell, then Comptroller, finally approved the terms that assured the Mauser Company fifty cents per thousand clips and seventy-five cents per rifle manufactured after December 22, 1904, payable semi-annually until the payments totalled $200,000, which would be the total remuneration involved. In July 1909 the final voucher was sent forward to write finis to the arrangement that had been marked by cordiality from the beginning.

There were no more patent troubles as far as the rifle was concerned but about 1905 the Ordnance Department found it advisable to dispense with the round-nose bullet that had been used in the original M1903 rifle in favor of a lighter bullet with a pointed nose. The reason for the change was international rather than national. The 1903 ammunition had proved satisfactory and the nation was in position to hold its own with any possible adversary in combat or in shooting contests on the ranges. It wasn't long, however, before a new development in small-arms ammunition required that, in self-defense, the .30-caliber bullet be redesigned to assure greater velocity and a more nearly flat trajectory even though it might affect the striking power. The situation might aptly be said to have been brought about through the eternal wish of every nation to possess better weapons than any other, should hostilities become necessary.

The development that finally forced Army Ordnance to make a change in bullet design was of French origin. Strange as it may seem, it had its inception as far back as 1835. The thought occurred to a French Artillery officer that a pointed projectile being propelled by the same propellant charge as used for a round-nose projectile would swish through the air

faster and with greater ease than the round nose because it offered less resistance to the air. That French officer was a Captain G. Piobert, who pondered the subject for nearly six years before he submitted his conclusions to his superiors. The Piobert idea remained confined to artillery projectiles until about 1891 when a Major Desaleux began to figure out how to apply the same idea to small-caliber shoulder weapons. It was three years before he submitted a design to higher authority, and three more years before a study was made officially by the French Army. Not until 1899 was manufacture of the approved bullet begun.

The bullet was subjected to tests that lasted about two years. Selected troops were assigned to the tests and every effort was made to keep the operations secret. On April 23, 1901 a general issue was approved and the bullet henceforth to be used in the Lebel rifle was identified as the *Balle D*.

These officers figured in lawsuit over the Springfield:

Brig. Gen. John Pitman
Designed the bullets

Brig. Gen. Samuel Hof
Okayed the designs

Maj. Gen. Thomas Green
Nicknamed 'Bullets'

Maj. Gen. Julian Hatcher
Submitted affidavits

Formal news of the newly adopted bullet was given to the world in July 1904. The raising of the secrecy ban at that late date was merely a formality since in September 1903 there had appeared in a Paris newspaper, *La Patrie*, a repetition of a statement made by a General de Gallifet at a tribune of the Chamber of Deputies to the effect that "from this day on the French Army is endowed with an improvement which doubles its power, and which shall make it tomorrow superior to the strongest European army". A statement like that could have but one effect. Old man Mars then and there got in a good plug, and other nations possessing armed forces were officially alerted unless, by some chance, the secret had not already been learned through underground sources. It soon became general knowledge that the French had changed to a sharp-pointed bullet. Perhaps German officials had previous knowledge of all that had been repeated by General de Gallifet, for subsequent disclosures indicate that the German rivals had not been sleeping—nor had they been talking. In Feburary 1904, only five months after the Gallifet statement, the German *Spitzgeschoss* (pointed bullet) was announced. It was thereafter known as the S-bullet. There was an easily discernable difference between the *Balle D* and the S-bullet.

It has been felt necessary to tell the story of these two bullets so the reader may get a better understanding of what was going on in our own Ordnance Department to bring about the development and adoption early in 1906 of a pointed bullet to be called the M1906 (the term applied to both the bullet and the ammunition). Later the M1906 bullet led to a claim by a German company for royalties on the assumption that the new bullet infringed a patent on a similar projectile granted by the U. S. Patent Office in 1907 to one Arthur Gleinich. When that claim became the basis of a damage suit filed in the U. S. Court of Claims, it lay dormant until the patent was seized by the Alien Property Custodian—thereby causing the U. S. Attorney General to arrange dismissal of the suit. After ten more years a tribunal set up to arrange settlement of damage claims of German and Austrian nationals against the United States, settled the claim. Though long since held by American legal counselors to be groundless, an arbitrary award was made, on the premise that the patent had been seized in violation of a treaty. Together with interest, it amounted to more than double the $200,000 that had been voluntarily passed to the Mauser interests without any dissension.

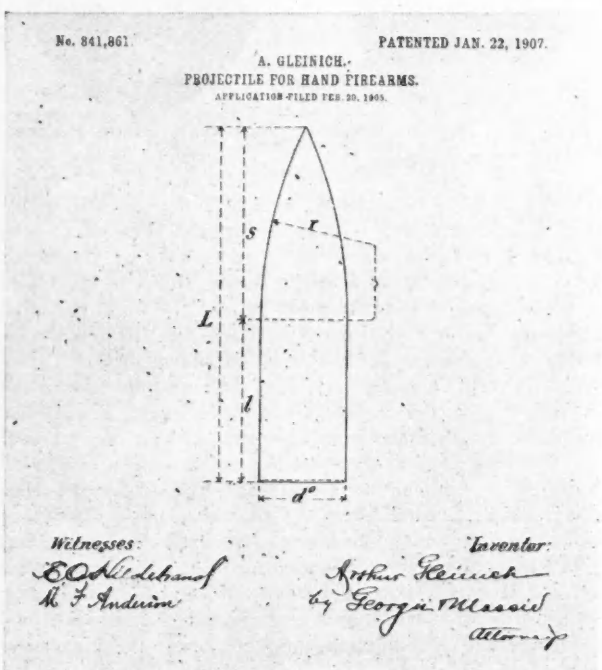
The shape of the M1906 bullet had been considered as far back at 1894 when an officer in Frankford Arsenal experimented with a sharp-pointed .30-caliber bullet in connection with a so-called Krnka-Hebler "tubular bullet", a Swiss bullet with a tube extending through its length. The officer was Lt. Col. J. P. Farley, who reported on his work on March 30, 1894, in a paper included in the annual report of the Chief of Ordnance as of June 30 of that year. There was no secret about the Farley bullet, but it was felt that the round-nose bullet was sufficient for the needs of the moment. When other countries, however, indicated their attitude toward increased velocity, flat trajectory and longer range, it was then up to the United States to do likewise. At that time (1904) there was on duty at Frankford Arsenal, and in charge of Small-Arms Ammunition Department, Major Samuel Hof (later Major General, Chief of Ordnance). That officer was called upon to design the new pointed bullet to replace the round-nose .30-caliber bullet then in use by American armed forces. How it was accomplished can best be told in General Hof's own words, which were incorporated in an affidavit submitted by him in connection with the claim for infringement of the Gleinich patent. Here is Hof's own story:

"Late in 1904 I received instructions from the Ordnance Department to design a new bullet for the (Springfield) rifle . . . Naturally . . . I designed a pointed bullet for the purpose, because that was the type of bullet from which we could obtain the highest velocity, with added advantages, as well as flat trajectory. The design of the bullet was worked out under my direction, the different dimensions being adopted for the purpose of making the bullet suitable for the Springfield rifle. Most of the work was done in 1905, and was completed early in 1906. . . ."

The next development was an application for a U. S. Patent filed on February 20, 1905 by one Arthur Gleinich of Konegs-

Wusterhausen, Germany for a projectile for hand firearms. On January 22, 1907 a patent was issued; meanwhile the inventor had assigned the patent to the Deutsch Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken, of Berlin, Germany.

America had been producing and using the M1906 bullet more than three years before attention was called to the Gleinich patent and the Ordnance Department advised that the '06 bullet was infringing the claims of the patent that had been issued to the German. That happened on November 17, 1909 when a Mr. H. Tauscher, on behalf of the owners of the Gleinich patent, sought to have the United States consider payment of royalty for the continued use of the bullet of our own design. The acting Chief of Ordnance at the time, Lt. Col. John T. Thompson, replied to the request by stating that the U. S. had produced the bullet as far back as 1894, and that since all the claims of the Gleinich patent had been anticipated, payment of royalty could not be entertained. From that date forward the owners of the patent made efforts to lease production rights to U. S. manufacturers of ammunition without appreciable success. Finally, on July 18th, 1914, only a few days before the outbreak of the war in Europe, the Deutsch Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken, through their American representatives, filed suit against the United States government in the U. S. Court of Claims for royalty on two hundred fifty million bullets at a rate of one dollar per thousand projectiles.


No. 841,861. PATENTED JAN. 22, 1907.

A. GLEINICH.

PROJECTILE FOR HAND FIREARMS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 20, 1905.

Witnesses: E. O. Hildebrand, M. F. Anderson

Inventor: Arthur Gleinich by Georgii Massiel Attorney

A. Gleinich's patent of pointed bullet with two-diameter arc provided basis of claim that the Springfield bullet infringed the Mauser patents

The claim remained a guest of the Court until about six months after the armistice of November 11, 1918, when it was seized by the Alien Property Custodian. In case any one may wonder why the Alien patent had not been seized earlier, the reason was that Congress had to enact the necessary legislation which did not become law until November 4, 1918, just one week before the Armistice was signed.

On March 19, 1928 the Congress passed a bill known as 'The Settlement of War Claims Act of 1928' whereby nationals of former enemy governments who had suffered damages through seizure of their private property or other assets during the war might present their claims before an arbiter appointed to examine all the evidence presented. The arbiter was empowered to award compensation, if deemed warranted, not to exceed a total of $100,000,000, on his certification to the Treasurer of the United States; his decisions would not be subject to review. The claimants were required to present their claims within four months after the arbiter had taken office. One thousand sixty-nine claims were filed and around six thousand patents were involved. In all the lot only one claim involved a bullet, and that was the Gleinich claim.

A couple of years passed before the case could be considered by the arbiter. The Judge Advocate General had set up in his office a Central Patent Section with Lt. Col. Joseph L. McMullen in charge. He was assisted by Captain Thomas H. Green, J.A.G.D., Mr. Franklin Little, a specialist on civil patents, and others, including Mr. William N. Roach, Chief of the Patent Section of the Ordnance Department. These gentlemen set to work at once to prepare to defend the government's side of the case. Mr. Little made a study of the claims listed in the Gleinich patent and, after comparing them with the dimensions of the pointed head of the projectile devised by Captain Piobert almost a century before (1835) and the Farley bullet (made in Frankford Arsenal in 1894), concluded on September 23, 1929 that the Gleinich claims had been anticipated. Captain Green also made an intensive study of shapes of bullets that were known to have been used in small-arms weapons. Just where he got so many samples was a mystery, but the story is told that he always had a handful in his pocket and knew each of them by name. His office mates presently nicknamed him "Bullets". The Captain even managed a trip to Europe to get evidence and has since told the writer that he spent a lot of his personal funds for which he was not reimbursed.

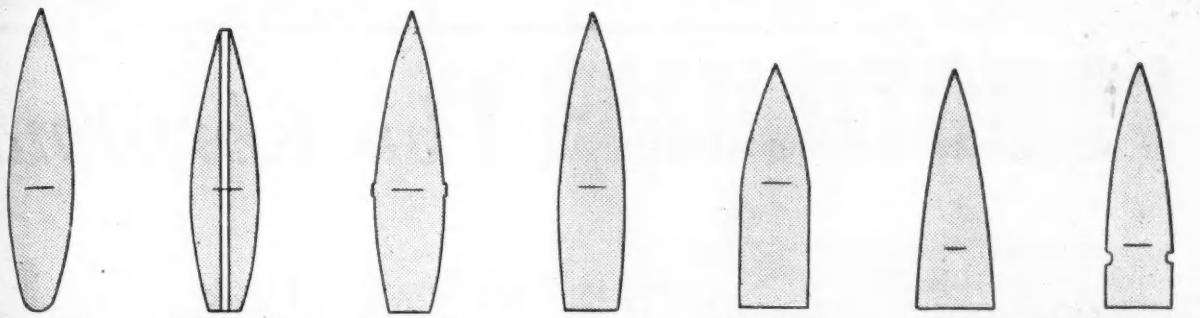
When the case was called in the spring of 1931, the claimant then recognized was the Berlin Karlsruher Industriewerk. The contentions of both sides were heard and both sides were invited to submit briefs which the arbiter would consider before rendering a decision. The counsel for the claimant submitted a seventeen-page brief devoted to the claim and an appendix of 28 pages more of comment on points raised in various affidavits that had been submitted by government witnesses. In reading the brief, one could easily imagine the case was being tried in Germany instead of the United States, for considerable effort was made to convince the arbiter that the patent was infringed because the German Supreme Court had rendered certain decisions. So intent was the counsel that in one paragraph of the brief the word 'infringement' or 'infringe' was repeated exactly eight times.

Among those Americans who submitted affidavits were General Julian S. Hatcher, Colonel Townsend Whelen, Langhorn D. Lewis and John E. Monroe. Their position in the field of small-arms weapons and ammunition was well-known to all except the claimant's counsel, who refused to see eye to eye with them. Captain Thomas H. Green's four pages contained a masterful and clearly understandable contribution which only fanned the intensity of the claimant counsel's denials and derision.

It took several pages of the claimant's verbiage to inform the arbiter that General Hof was badly misinformed and that if the arbiter would but compare the Gleinich bullet and the M1906 bullet he would see that the claimant had proved beyond doubt the 'identical arc of both.' The statement was only a wee bit of the flood of wry comments made by the

counsel, who doggedly refused to admit anything as true—except it be the claimant's contentions. Some of the other officers who came in for the counsel's caustic comments were Colonel William H. Tschappat (later Major General, Chief of Ordnance); Brigadier General John Pitman, who actually produced two of the original Farley bullets; Captain Frank J. Jervey, whose genius took five pages to belittle; Dr. (later Colonel) Samuel Gordon Green, whose praises could well be sung by every American soldier, sailor or marine who has manned a machine gun, automatic rifle or other shoulder weapon during the past two wars, was not overlooked in the comments any more than his fellow worker, Captain Jervey.

By December 15, 1931, the arbiter had completed his work and prepared the final list of awards to be made under the special law.



The final decision awarded the claimant $300,000 damages and interest from July 2, 1921 (the end of the war) to December 31, 1928. The interest totaled $112,520.55, making a grand total of $412,520.55. Whatever so influenced the final decision is still a mystery to many. ◆ ◆ ◆

SPRAYGUN PRESSURE TEST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

gun, a calibration strip tester, an assortment of coatings for different conditions and the services of a consultant. The $1,000 covers all these. Don't waste your time (and theirs) asking them to sell you a quart of the gook. They won't do it. They've found that without complete instructions and equipment, satisfactory analysis cannot be done.

There are two possible ways you might handle this problem:

1) Hire a consulting engineer to do the testing for you. There are some very good ones around. They might run the tests if you'd ship them the guns and the loads. If you want to dicker with them, write to Greer Ellis, Magnaflux Corporation, 25 West 43 Street, New York. But don't forget that such men are highly skilled stress analysts and are consultants to many of the country's leading engineering firms. They probably wouldn't do any work that would run under $100 or so.

2) Check the mechanical engineering department of your local engineering college. Ask for the professor who handles experimental stress-analysis work. Not many colleges have brittle-coating equipment, but if they do, you may be able to persuade the profs to do some testing for you at more modest fees. Maybe you could make a deal with a graduate student to do his thesis on testing your actions or loads.

3) A final possibility is the research and development laboratory of a local industry. Many of the big machinery manufacturers do brittle-coating analysis. If you can find a gun bug in one of those departments, you ought to be all set.

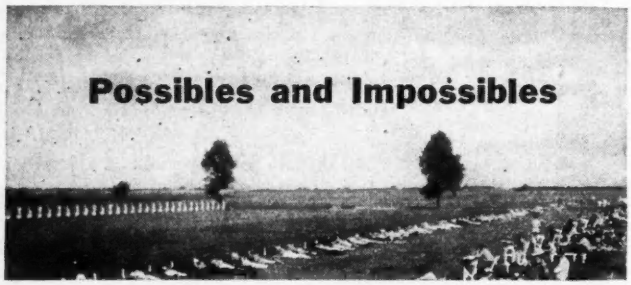
While I have no brittle-coating equipment myself, I'll be glad to hear from those who are interested in this method, and to help in any way possible. A collection of brittle-coating test results with different weapons and loads would be of great interest and value to experimenters. ◆ ◆ ◆

WEIGHING TRIGGER PULLS: After more than a quarter-century in this game, I was under the impression that trigger pulls had to be determined with a set of weights—or an elaborate improvision of known weights hung on strings (RIFLEMAN, page 21, Oct. 1942). But one is never too old to learn. A few months ago an ex-GI who had adjusted thousands of service trigger pulls, gave me a demonstration of a much easier method. We tried it and it works. Sorry I have forgotten his name. . . . To determine the pressure required to release a rifle trigger, use a parcels post or household scale, usually available. Cock the *empty* rifle, rest it muzzle-down on the scale, and note weight in pounds and ounces. Lift the rifle very gently with a finger across the trigger. Note the weight of the gun at the time the hammer falls. Subtract this from the original weight, and you have the weight of the trigger pull. With brief practice and an ordinary household scale, readings as close as one ounce are easy.—PHIL SHARPE.

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

VOL. 12, NO. 12 BRIDGEPORT, D



Before we wrap up 1949 and file it away in dead storage, let's take inventory of our accomplishments in the shooting game. All in all it's been a year of progress for the target sports.

This year many rifle clubs took on the added responsibility of teaching juniors the safe handling of firearms, the principles of good sportsmanship and the basic elements of rifle marksmanship. As the saying goes, "Youth must be served"—and we're glad to see this growing trend to "serve" tomorrow's champions in the proper manner.

When the smoke of hot competition had cleared, there were some new records and some new champions. However, many of the old timers proved once again that experience pays off in tight groups—and they'll still be the men to beat in 1950. But whatever the outcome of future matches, you can be sure of plenty of the team spirit and friendly rivalry that have always prevailed in the traditional American sports of rifle and handgun target shooting.

At many of the shoots (big and little) that we attended in 1949, we noticed the many improvements that had been made by clubs throughout the country. Several complete new ranges have been constructed, equipped with the most modern facilities. Some of the clubs have added covered firing points and hard-top firing lines, while larger clubs have been made more attractive and comfortable for the shooter, his family and guests.

A good sign for the future is the emphasis being placed on encouraging new membership. The methods used varied all the way from friendly personal invitations to displaying the beautiful winners' prizes in the show windows of prominent merchants.

It won't be easy to forget 1949's memorable contests. They'll probably be discussed and compared for years to come. We feel that it was a successful year for the target sports and will serve as a competent stepping stone for greater achievements and more shooting fun in 1950. With this thought in mind, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and plenty of good shooting in the year to come.

This Christma

Here's the perfect Christmas gift t
start a youngster or friend on a lifeti
of shooting fun. Give one of the famo
Remington "500 Series" 22 rifles. Eve
Remington 22 is built with fast, easy a
tion. Extra strength, fine accuracy a
long-life dependability. Made with qua
ity materials, Remington 22 rifles off
unusual safety features.

May your Christmas be merry and yo
shooting the best ever in the coming yea
Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridg
port 2, Conn.

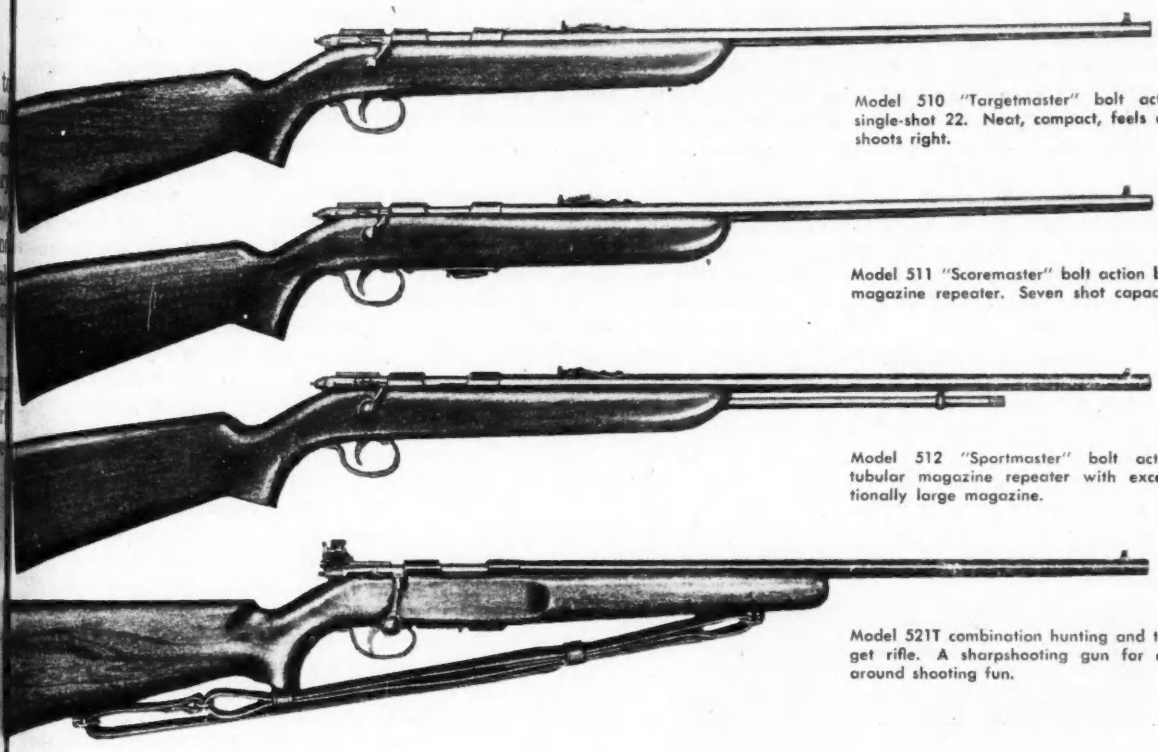
Remington News

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BRIDGEPORT, DECEMBER, 1949

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle and Pistol Shooters

say it with a REMINGTON 22



Model 510 "Targetmaster" bolt action single-shot 22. Neat, compact, feels and shoots right.

Model 511 "Scoremaster" bolt action box magazine repeater. Seven shot capacity.

Model 512 "Sportmaster" bolt action tubular magazine repeater with exceptionally large magazine.

Model 521T combination hunting and target rifle. A sharpshooting gun for all-around shooting fun.

Another great gift . . . REMINGTON 22 cartridges Christmas wrapped and ready to give

For hunting or plinking, Remington "Hi-Speed" 22's give top-notch accuracy and power. These get-up-and-go cartridges have fine accuracy, lightning speed and smashing power. And famous Remington "Kleanbore" priming assures fast, snappy ignition, won't cause rust or corrosion. Pick up a few boxes in Christmas wrap when you buy that new 22, or give them as a gift by themselves.

"Targetmaster," "Scoremaster," "Sportmaster," "Hi-Speed" and "Kleanbore" are Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. by Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport 2, Conn.

FOOD for THOUGHT . . .

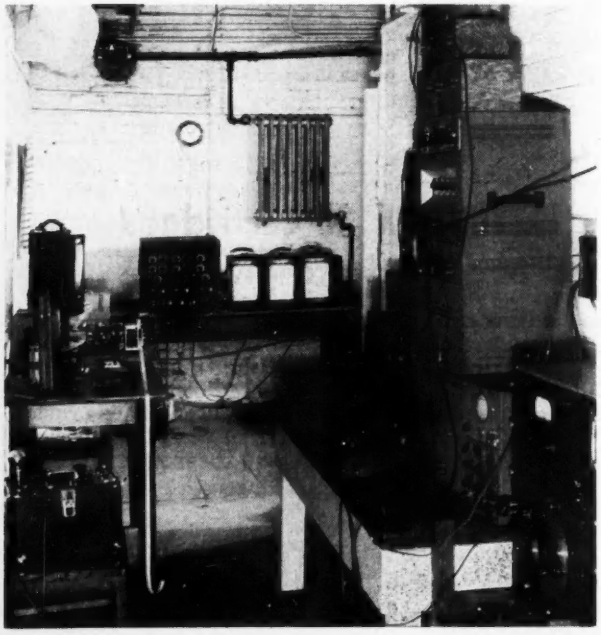
If your scores are sagging, try shooting from the cabin of a B-29

By George G. Ferren

SHORTLY AFTER THE START of World War II the Psycho-Acoustic Laboratory of Harvard University, under the direction of Dr. S. S. Stevens, was asked by the War Department to find out, among other things, the effect of a continual and intense noise on a person's ability to think and act quickly and clearly. It was reasoned correctly that it would be poor planning to spend thousands of dollars training and equipping a bomber crew to perform a few minutes of swift precision work only to find that the steady drone of the plane's motors on the long trip to the target area had numbed the crew's senses to a point where concentration on the task at hand was very difficult, if not impossible.

The specific task for the laboratory was to determine at what noise level a person's ability to react normally was affected. When this was determined, the Army could profitably sacrifice bomb load to soundproof the planes' cabins below this level. What this final level was, I never knew or cared to find out. One of the means used to determine this level, however, interested me very much.

The Army, realizing that rifle shooting to a very great extent is a game of concentration, plus self and nerve control, suggested to the laboratory that they might, to good advantage, start experiments with a group of riflemen. Thereupon the laboratory began gathering data from a group of Naval ROTC men who were training at the college. I have been for several years employed by the Maintenance Department of Harvard University. I am also a very ardent, though not very famous, target shooter. At the time of the above-mentioned tests and for a few years prior, I was captain of the Harvard Employees' Rifle Team and it had been my pleasure to keep an accurate account in graph form of every score fired in both practice and competitive matches by every member of our club. When through general discussion with laboratory personnel, this fact became known, they were very anxious for us to shoot under tests for them as they were wasting valuable time and having considerable difficulty trying to determine what the ROTC trainees could do (target shooting) under normal conditions.



Noise generating and amplifying equipment used at Harvard Psycho-Acoustic Laboratory in producing sound equivalent to the roar in a bombing plane during tests to learn the effect of noise on concentration

The Harvard Employees' Rifle Team was only too willing to cooperate in any way, so tests under sound were immediately started. At the time of these tests, all men participating had had at least three years of previous weekly practice, so it was almost certain that any increase in accuracy while shooting under tests could not be considered as normal improvements due to practice.

The setup for these tests consisted of a set of vacuum-tube noise generators, designed to give the same tone and type of noise that an airplane engine would give. This sound was then boosted by conventional amplifiers and produced through batteries of special speakers a sound level of 100 decibels, approximately the same as that encountered in an airplane cabin.

On the initial test, each member shot 85 ten-shot targets. Shooting was done in 20-shot relays at two targets, ten shots on each, and required an average of about ten minutes. This was about the time necessary for us to shoot ten shots under normal conditions. We were not encouraged to hurry at all; in fact, just the opposite, as worthwhile prizes were offered as an incentive for us to produce the best score possible. We shot five or six strings (100 to 120 shots) each night of the test. This was at least three times as many shots as we usually fired in the offhand position and one would normally think that, due to fatigue, etc., the average would be lowered. When the 85 scores had been fired and compared with the 20 previous scores, it was found that, without a single exception, the averages had increased by a sizeable margin.

There were more tests of similar nature, with the noise level raised to 110 DB, but all succeeding tests were corroborative of the first. The decibel scale is a logarithmic function and this represented a considerable increase in the noise level. To those of you who may not have a very clear conception of the intensity of a 100 to 110 DB noise level, may I state that while standing in a normal offhand shooting position, it was actually possible to feel your diaphragm vibrate in cadence with the bass oscillator. Breathing, while not painful, was noticeably difficult and it was absolutely impossible to convey an order by sound of mouth. The tests were conducted in the basement of a huge Gothic brick structure, with masonry walls a minimum of three feet thick and it was possible to lay your hands on the walls and feel them vibrating from the deep-throated roar of the amplifiers. Whether this was a fact that would stand scientific proof or just a condition induced on one's senses by being in such a strong sound field, is hard to say, but it is a fact that everyone who tried it was of the same opinion.

When the laboratory was certain that their tests had what they termed "a positive effect" they were no longer interested. They thanked us very kindly for our help and made the group a present of some surplus ammunition purchased for these tests. It was a most welcome gift as we were having a hard time obtaining ammunition for target use at that time.

When the tests were over and we resumed shooting under normal conditions, we had high hopes of continuing our high scores, in most cases, eight to ten points higher than our previous averages. However, this failed to materialize and we immediately fell back to our previous level.

(Where the laboratory left off would seem to be an ideal point for some rifleman with a flair for psychology to start to analyze the situation from a rifleman's point of view.)

It would seem, from the results of this test, that any target shooter with a moderate amount of experience is physically able to shoot much better than he normally does. Apparently, this overwhelming sound obliterated all irrelevant thought from our minds and enabled us to concentrate more deeply on the mechanics of shooting.

Since knowing the results of the above test, I have tried many times to think of some way to put this knowledge to a practical use in producing better scores. It is almost certain that the problem is a psychological one and I believe that after a shooter reaches the point in physical ability where he can shoot possibles prone and 90's offhand more or less regularly, he has a much better chance of further improvement by taking a comprehensive course in psychology than he has by increased practice.

I am appending a tabulation of ten consecutive scores (not all fired at one time) fired by four different shooters under normal conditions and also under conditions outlined in the test. This is a fair representation of the results obtained by the group as a whole. It is very significant to note that as soon as the tests were concluded the scores immediately dropped to their previous level and it was not until four years later, when our league started shooting "scope" sights, that any marked improvement was shown. ◆ ◆ ◆

Shooter A		Shooter B		Shooter C		Shooter D	
NORMAL	NOISE	NORMAL	NOISE	NORMAL	NOISE	NORMAL	NOISE
70	90	76	85	82	84	76	75
78	83	66	89	75	85	77	86
81	87	77	77	77	83	73	80
73	92	62	83	71	90	70	86
82	77	73	84	78	84	76	84
77	90	78	81	86	78	68	88
68	87	76	81	84	85	76	80
78	85	81	77	80	86	79	80
79	82	72	77	56	86	86	89
82	82	64	86	75	87	74	79
Average: 76.8	85.5	72.5	82.0	76.4	84.8	75.5	82.7

WORLD RECORD TARGETS

As far as we know, the two targets on the right represent the finest accuracy of which modern rifles have so far been capable. Both groups were fired in competition, before many witnesses. The famed Rowland group (ten shots at 200 yards in .81 inch, center to center) notwithstanding, these two clusters of five shots are the latest and best measure of the long effort to build a rifle which will put all of its bullets into one ragged hole.

Here is all available information on the two groups:

The upper group, five shots at 100 yards, measures, .056 inch, center to center! It was fired on July 23, 1949 at Oil City, Pennsylvania. The shooter was Clair Taylor of Taylor & Robbins, Rixford, Pennsylvania. The rifle, built by Taylor & Robbins, is chambered for the .219 Wasp cartridge. The barrel is by John L. Gregoire. Sierra bullets were used.

The lower of the two groups, five shots at 200 yards, was fired at Oil City on August 20, 1949. The shooter was Frank M. Riddle of Oil City. As measured by Oil City's three-man scoring committee, the five shots measure .399 inch center to center! Riddle's rifle, in .219 Wasp caliber, was assembled and stocked by Taylor & Robbins, using a Gregoire barrel. The load was 26 grains of DuPont 3031 behind the Sierra 50-grain bullet.

Little can be added to the story of these groups that was not included in Al Barr's 'Still Chasing Rainbows' (RIFLEMAN, November, page 11). If and when smaller groups are fired, the fact will be reported in the pages of the Rifleman. ◆ ◆ ◆

Clair Taylor's record-breaking 100-yd. group measures .056-inch

F. M. Riddle holds 200-yard 5-shot record with this .399-inch group

THE SPOTTING SCOPE -- December 1949

Unofficial and scattered reports from Buenos Aires, Argentina, indicate that the twelve-man U. S. team did well in the International Shooting Union World Championships . . . with four World Championships to its credit and several near misses. . . . The champions—T/Sgt. Huelet Benner, Ft. Knox, Ky. (rapid-fire pistol); Art Jackson, Brooklyn, N. Y., (50 and 100 meter small bore); Charles Logie, Grand Rapids, Mich., (defense pistol match); U. S. Team (center-fire 50-meter slow-fire event). . . . Associated Press listed Harry Reeves, of Detroit, as the big medal winner with three medal awards earned in the center fire, free pistol (in which he finished second), and silhouette matches. . . . Logie and Art Cook, Washington, D. C., were reported as having won two medals each . . . with single awards going to Benner and to William Toney, of Kingsville, Texas. . . . Cook, first named as winner of the three-position small-bore match, was relegated to second place when an official recount gave the title to P. A. Janhonen, of Finland . . . who tallied 1165 x 1200 to Cook's 1163. . . . Complete results and details will be carried in the January issue of The American Rifleman.

Here's the dope on NRA's 1950 National Convention and the National Championships . . . Convention is definitely scheduled for San Francisco during the week of October 2-6 . . . with headquarters and the exhibit in the St. Francis Hotel . . . and some other activities lined up for the Sir Francis Drake and the Fairmont. . . . National Championship matches will be held in the same locale the week previous . . . with the pistol event scheduled for Emile Dutil's fine San Francisco Police Range . . . and the small bore to be held on a big 125-point plant to be constructed with municipal funds in Sharpe Park in San Francisco. . . . Big-bore matches, though not definitely set, probably will be held at nearby Camp Roberts. . . . Much spade work in final planning was done by San Francisco members Emile Dutil, Walter Swanson, Dan London, Russ Wisler and the Park Commission's Board of Supervisors. . . . All classes probably can be accommodated for the matches. . . . More complete information will be available in forthcoming issues.

Sportsman's groups are fearful that President Truman's surprise veto of the Dingell Bill, unanimously passed by House and Senate to earmark funds derived from the present ten percent excise tax on sport fishing tackle for nation-wide sport fish restoration programs, may be the first step in a move to repeal the Pittman-Robertson law . . . which utilizes arms and ammunition excise tax funds for game restoration. . . . The President termed the highly successful P-R programs an undesirable precedent. . . . Fishermen are calling on their shooting brethren for help when Rep. Dingell reintroduces his bill in the next session of Congress.

The American Legion is reviving interest in its marksmanship program . . . having named Frank Nekimken, assistant to the Director of the National Americanism Commission in charge. . . . Nekimken will cooperate with National Marksmanship Program Director Bill Woolrey, of Canon City, Colorado. . . . Grapefruit League note: The National Mid-Winter Small-Bore Matches at St. Petersburg will be held March 7-11 to open shooting activities on the Florida circuit . . . while Smitty Brown's famed National Mid-Winter Pistol Championships at Tampa will follow March 14-18. . . . Smitty, who must limit entries to 400, promises programs by January 1 with entries closing March 1. . . . Clem Theed's Flamingo pistol event at Coral Gables winds up the sunshine activities March 20-23. . . . Nashville (Tenn.) high school shooters are grateful for the assistance of Marine Corps recruiting personnel there . . . who have undertaken to serve as coaches and instructors of the thirteen high school teams entered in forthcoming rifle matches sponsored annually by NRA and Youth Incorporated, of Nashville. . . . An opportunity for New York City gals to learn to shoot is offered by the American Women's Rifle Club which shoots Monday nights in Lost Battalion Hall, Queens . . . an all-girl club shooting in open competition, according to Mrs. Rosalen Becker, Executive Officer, who was an interested visitor to the Denver convention. . . . Incidentally, committee chairmen and members of all committees which met in Denver deserve the congratulations of all shooters for workmanlike jobs. . . . Season's greetings to all shooters from the NRA Headquarters staff.

Ray Stann

Gen. M. A. Reckord Retires As Executive VP; Seattle Woman Elected to NRA Board

General M. A. Reckord retired as the active administrative head of the NRA when his term as Executive Vice-President expired this year. The action took place at the Board of Directors meeting during the convention in Denver.

Few of the present generation of shooters know the conditions under which the General assumed the direction of the daily operations of the NRA in 1926. Few therefore have a clear picture of his contribution to the Association we know today. The prestige of the Association in governmental circles was at an all-time low when General Reckord took office. Its book-keeping methods were outmoded and its financial and other records almost non-existent. The morale of its employees was at low ebb. Personal differences had divided the Board into warring camps.

An outstanding soldier in World War I, a man highly regarded in the War Department, in Congress and by the public in his home State of Maryland, it required high moral courage for him to identify himself with an organization in the condition of the NRA at that time. It is typical of the man that he took the job knowing full well the kind of task that confronted him. It is typical of the man, too, that within two years the Association's prestige had been established at the highest level it had enjoyed up to that time. The morale of its employees was all that could be desired. Its records and books of account were clear-cut and open to inspection by all comers.

This starred map shows how the 60 directors of the NRA are distributed throughout the U. S.

He had a passion for carefully seeking the facts, then acting on those facts with complete candor and courage, letting the chips fall where they may. But, unlike some who pride themselves on a similar method of operation, there was never anything of rudeness or crudeness in his hewing to the lines laid down by hard facts. He was a fighter who always hoped that good sense would eliminate the need for battle.

Often decorated in two World Wars, friend of Presidents and Governors, he is a humble man with a great pride in decency and square dealing. His contribution to the NRA, to the shooting game and to the national defense will never be a thing to be measured in memberships or dollars. It is better measured in the character, the moral fiber, the well earned prestige, which will be always the hallmark of M. A. Reckord.

With the retirement of General Reckord the Board of Directors elected C. B. Lister as Executive Vice-President as well as Executive-Director. Major General Merritt A. Edson, Director of Public Safety of Vermont, moved up from vice-president to president and Harry Linn, of Iowa, was elected vice-president. Louis Lucas was returned to office as Treasurer and Frank Wyman as Secretary of the Association. Marvin Driver, of Detroit, Michigan, and C. M. Styer, of Seattle, Washington, were elected new members of the Executive Committee to take the places vacated by Reckord and Linn. Both of the latter men will still sit with the Executive Committee but Reckord will qualify, under the NRA by-laws, as a new member of the executive council and Linn as an elected officer.

At the annual members' meeting held on Wednesday afternoon, October 19, as is the custom each year, 20 directors were voted to the board for a three-year term. Of the twenty elected eleven were put on the board for the first time.

Mrs. Alice Bull, of Seattle, Washington, famous in shooting ranks for many years as a big-game hunter and competitive shooter, gained new distinction when she was elected to the board of directors. She was the first woman in the 78-year history of the association to sit with the ruling body.

Below are listed the directors of the association by state. The number listed after the state designates NRA membership in that state. The names with asterisks are also members of the executive committee and the heavy-faced names are the new members of the board of directors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALABAMA: (580)
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ARIZONA: (3,810)
Howard C. Johnson, Phoenix

CALIFORNIA: (47,613)
Emil J. Dutil, San Francisco
*A. L. Meloche, San Diego
Robert Perkins, Fresno
Lester A. Pope, Los Angeles
*Kinsey J. Voorhees, La Mesa
Russell I. Wisler, San Francisco

COLORADO: (9,045)
G. E. Damon, Greeley
Lloyd Markle, Denver
John M. Schooley, Denver

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: (1,501)
*Frank T. Parsons, Jr.

FLORIDA: (1,868)
L. W. Abrams, Clearwater
*C. A. Brown, Tampa
Frank J. Kahrs, Clearwater

IDAHO: (6,008)
I. E. Nitschke, Twin Falls

ILLINOIS: (9,275)
Wallace H. Davis, Highland Park
Wilbur L. Withrow, Springfield

INDIANA: (5,108)
Waldo E. Seagly, Topeka

IOWA: (3,001)
*Harry D. Linn, Des Moines

KENTUCKY: (1,190)
W. Owen Keller, Frankfort

LOUISIANA: (799)
*J. Alvin Badeaux, Thibodaux

MICHIGAN: (13,938)
*Marvin Driver, Detroit
Don R. Gillies, Detroit

MINNESOTA: (6,474)
B. K. Soby, Fergus Falls
E. O. Swanson, Minneapolis

MISSOURI: (3,346)
Byron Engle, Kansas City

MONTANA: (7,527)
O. R. Landet, Anaconda

NEBRASKA: (2,356)
Clarke L. Wilson, Lincoln

NEW JERSEY: (4,496)
Carl Kastner, Maplewood

NEW YORK: (15,915)
P. D. Andrews, Syracuse
D. B. Hilliker, Kenmore
R. K. Stritzinger, Scarsdale

C. B. Lister, Executive Director of the NRA, congratulates Mrs. Alice Bull, of Seattle, Washington, on her election as the first woman representative on the Association's Board of Directors

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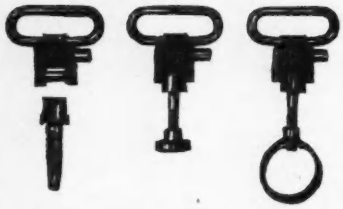

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Charles Code, Hollidaysburg
Lt. Col. J. C. Mauk, Harrisburg
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SOUTH DAKOTA: (2,259)
Walter Siewert, Custer

TENNESSEE: (1,390)
J. J. Ring, Franklin

TEXAS: (11,248)
Maj. Gen. K. L. Berry, Austin
Thomas D. Park, Dallas
George R. Whittington, Amarillo

UTAH: (6,867)
David P. Sugden, Salt Lake City

VERMONT: (1,253)
*Maj. Gen. M. A. Edson, USMC (Ret'd), Montpelier
P. H. Teachout, East Burke

VIRGINIA: (3,060)
*Rear Adm. M. C. Mumma USN (Ret'd) Berryville
H. J. E. Reid, Hampton

WASHINGTON: (20,759)
Mrs. Alice Bull, Seattle
Malcolm B. Edwards, South Bend
*C. M. Styer, Seattle

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*C. B. Lister, Washington, D. C.
*Lt. Col. Glenn C. Funk, USMC, Washington, D. C.
*Col. James F. Strain, DCM, Washington, D. C.
*Fred Mills, New York, N. Y.
Lt. Col. Walter Walsh, USMC, Arlington, Va.
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A NEW IDEA IN MARYLAND

Early on the morning of October 9th, carloads of young riflemen converged on the Patapsco outdoor rifle range of the Associated Gun Clubs of Baltimore for the first NRA Registered All-Junior State Rifle Championship Match. Junior matches have been successfully conducted in various parts of the country but this particular competition served as an experiment in testing certain recommendations of the NRA Junior Advisory Committee in respect to fitting junior shoots into the established pattern of NRA registered tournaments.

Registered in similar fashion to a local rifle tournament, the junior match was allowed leeway in the required minimum number of shots (reduced to 40 for juniors) and in the classification system used for awarding prizes.

All entries were separated into Class A and Class B shooters. Into Class A went all juniors who held NRA rifle classifications of Sharpshooter, Expert or Master or who had earned NRA Junior qualification ratings of Expert or Distinguished Rifleman. All other shooters were placed in Class B. Strangely enough this arbitrary division resulted in two almost perfectly equal groups—38 juniors fell into Class A and 36 in Class B. Identical prize schedules were furnished for each class in each individual match and in the aggregate.

Before the tournament, programs had been sent to all junior clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and nearby Pennsylvania. All areas named were represented on the firing line. Although the grand aggregate was designed for the award of the Maryland State Championship Trophy and limited to residents of that state and the District, the sponsors had also secured trophies for the high shooters from Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The schedule of matches was expressly designed for young riflemen. Match 1 called for 20 shots prone at 50 yards. Match 2 was 20 shots sitting at the same distance and March 3 had 20 kneeling shots. Match 4 was half a Dewar course—10 shots prone at 50 yards and 10 at 100 yards. The individual aggregate was the total of the four matches.

Next the program provided a 2-man team match, 20 shots each at 50 yards. The grand finale was a 4-man club team match calling for 10 shots per man at 50 yards. All firing was with metallic sights.

The Maryland State Junior Championship Trophy went to Richard W. Waters of Silver Spring, Md. for his 768-30X out of 800 in the aggregate. Fred A. Gunn of Alexandria, Va. had the same total with one more X but was ineligible for the state title. Roy Oster of Haverton, Pa. won the Pennsylvania award. Bill Henry of Baltimore had 720 and was high among Class B shooters in the aggregate. Waters and Oster fired together to win the 2-man team match with 398-25X. The Montgomery Blair High School team won the 4-man team match with 391-21X. In the same event the Arlington Rimfire Club of Virginia lost only 2 points but an unfortunate crossfire shot resulted in the disqualification of one target.

If you want to encourage your younger shooters to attend events, take a hint from this match. The Maryland sponsors now have 74 new outdoor competitors just spoiling for more outdoor shooting. Run a couple of similar junior matches and the youngsters will successfully be converted to the regular outdoor game.

Director of Junior Activities for the Associated Maryland clubs, John Lenz, planned and worked out the successful event. Enthusiastic support came from all sides, not only from the officers of his own organization but from local newsmen like Mr. A. R. Bird of the Baltimore News Post and Mr. J. R. Linthicum of the Baltimore Sun.

Worthy of quoting is the following comment from John Lenz, "We of the Associated Gun Clubs are 'sold' on these juniors. We hope to develop a separate set-up in all future matches for the junior shooters, to give them a chance to get accustomed to competitive shooting. We want them to be ready for October, 1950, for, make no mistake, we are going to do this again and again in an attempt to add new shooters to the senior ranks."

SUMMER LEAGUE RESULTS

A total of forty-nine rifle leagues and nine pistol leagues comprising an overall total of 357 teams competed in the 1949 Registered Summer Leagues. The state and national championships were decided by Oct. 9. The National Championship rifle team received the National Summer League Trophy which was a Remington 513T rifle and the National Pistol Championship team was awarded a new type Colt Woodsman pistol. Complete copies of the official bulletins have been mailed to all entrants as well as all NRA affiliated Clubs. Listed below are the medal winners for the championships.

RIFLE

(Dewar Course)

1. Frazier-Simplex League, Washington, Pa.

Peter Romcovitz	400-36x
C. J. Moore	400-30x
S. J. DeWitt	400-36x
Alberta Moore	398-27x
	1598-129x

2. Becker Chapman Post, Waterloo, Ia.

Ralph Travis	400-32x
John Moschkau	400-33x
Norman Welsh	399-24x
Leo T. Schultz	399-30x
	1598-119x

3. McMinnville Club League, McMinnville, Ore.

Wallace Baltzell	400-27x
A. L. Rogers	399-29x
Charles Baltzell	399-21x
T. L. Warren	398-20x
	1596-97x

PISTOL

(National Match Course)

1. Cerro Gordo Club League, Mason City, Ia.

Leo Alstot	293
Albert Boekelman	289
Ernest Linnenkamp	268
Earl Thompson	282
	1132

2. Capitol Pistol League, Raymond, Wash.

Eugene O'Dell	293
Harry Armstrong	289
Clifford Smith	278
Glen A. Gibbs	277
	1122

3. Federal Employees Club League, Denver, Colo.

Fred Bogue	285
John Schooley	280
Charles Hyland	276
John Harrison	273
	1114

Additional medals and trophies were awarded for each State Championship in the leagues.

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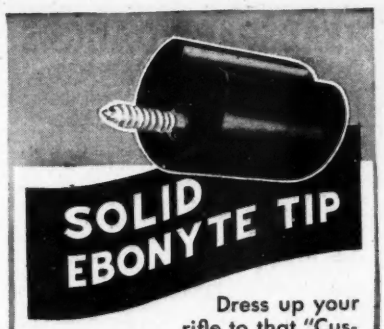

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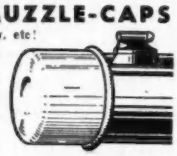

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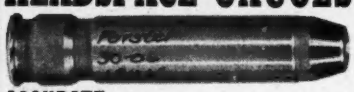

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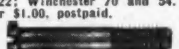
GUARD  SCREWS
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DCM NOTES

Annual Reports: Forms and instructions for the DCM Annual Report of Firing and Annual Inventory of U. S. Property were mailed November 1st to NRA clubs in the central part of the U. S. (central zone) affiliated with the Office of the DCM. These reports should have been returned to the DCM by November 30th. Similar forms will be mailed to clubs in the southern part of the U. S. December 1st. These should be returned by December 31st. Mailings to other zones will follow. In preparing these reports club secretaries will find it helpful to review the DCM Notes in the August and October issues of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

Sale of Rifles: The Office of the DCM has now processed the last of the orders for '03 Springfield rifles that were received from NRA members. All of the Springfield orders are now in the hands of the army arsenals throughout the country and they will ship out the rifles as quickly as possible. Altogether the DCM processed 60,000 Springfield orders that were received in 1948. Since that time no new orders for rifles have been taken and no new orders will be taken until sufficient additional Springfield rifles are made available by the Army Ordnance Department. An announcement of new DCM Springfield sales will be made in the RIFLEMAN when they are available.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (39 U.S.C. 233)

OF THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, published monthly at Washington, D. C., for October, 1949.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher: National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.
Editor: C. B. Lister, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.
Managing Editor: John Scofield, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.
Business Manager: L. F. Lucas, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)
National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. No stockholders.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are not any, so state.)
None.

4. The two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders, and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only).
C. B. Lister, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of October, 1949.
Louis Q. Bradley, Notary Public.
(seal)
My commission expires May 14, 1951.

"OPERATION RIFLEFIRE"

The Civil Air Patrol, 31st Wing, located in Allentown, Pa., on Oct. 9 conducted a training program which they coded "Operation Riflefire". The operation was an overall training program for civilian pilots and riflemen members of the 31st Wing.

The prime mission of the operation was to fly riflemen from their home airports or landing strips to the rifle range located at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, as though they were forming to repulse an enemy. It was the duty of the CAP Pilots to make as many round trip flights and to bring in as many riflemen as possible.

The riflemen were assigned the mission of firing 10 rounds prone and 10 rounds standing with a thirty caliber rifle, either their own sport model or an army model. Trophies and other awards were presented to the high scoring riflemen.

Colonel Phillip F. Neuweiler, Commanding Officer, 31st Wing, CAP, and Major George A. Hoffman, Official NRA Referee, reported that the operation was successful in spite of a bad ground fog that held up the arrival of planes until 11 A.M. Statistics show that 240 riflemen were flown in and out by a total of 127 CAP aircraft.

Much of the success of the operation was due to the cooperation of the Pennsylvania National Guard, who furnished the personnel to operate the Indiantown Gap Rifle Range, local NRA members, the Pennsylvania State Rifle Association and affiliated clubs who offered their services as instructors and coaches.

Vic Brenneman, George Spaid, Paul Bomgardner, "Red" Sterbutzel and many other well known Pennsylvania shooters deserve special commendation for their active part in assisting the CAP Officials in making the first "Operation Riflefire" a success.

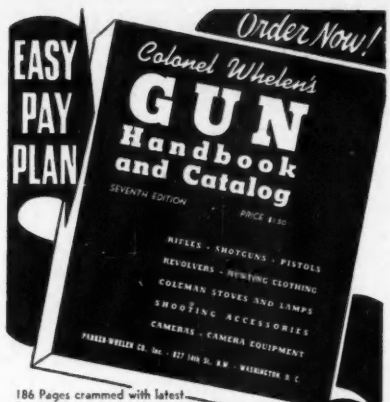
The CAP officials now say that "Operation Riflefire" will become an annual event for the Indiantown Gap Range. They expect other CAP Wings to follow their lead in the future.

All NRA Clubs and individual members are encouraged to cooperate in similar programs throughout the country. The exercises afford opportunities for club members to be of service to the nation's security program and at the same time to help introduce new shooters into the ranks of the NRA.

JUNIOR RIFLEMEN

☆ During October another twenty young expert riflemen entered the ranks of NRA Junior Distinguished Riflemen. Of particular note is the fact that three members of a single club, the North Dayton Junior Riflemen, won the qualification honor. The following juniors now wear the gold eagle award of Distinguished Riflemen:

Ronald H. Hinz	Milwaukee, Wis.
James Carter	St. Albans, N. Y.
Gene Holmes	Ashland, Ohio
Neil Schoonejongen	Paterson, N. J.
John Caruso	Hawthorne, N. J.
Charles Benavides	Taos, N. M.
Donald B. Hilliker, Jr.	Bowling Green, Ohio
Gordon Y. W. Ow	Honolulu, Th.
Lyle A. Summers	Mount Morris, Ill.
Robert Frank Billy	Cleveland, Ohio
Raymond Rossey	Wesleyville, Penn.
Stanley Licht	Riverdale, N. Y.
Walter Albert Reinhardt	Mountain View, Calif.
John Joseph Meyer	Dayton, Ohio
Greal Cedric Milthaler	Dayton, Ohio
William C. Lauderman	Dayton, Ohio
Albert Lalik	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Clarence Telschow	Hillsdale, N. J.
Ellwood R. Barton	Baltimore, Md.
Chester R. Whilhelm	N. Manchester, Ind.



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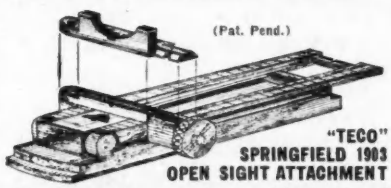

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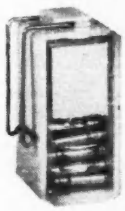

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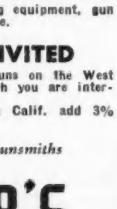

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PA. CONSERVATION CAMP

The Civil Engineering Camp of Pennsylvania State College was a busy spot last summer. Under state sponsorship conservation clubs from 52 countries sent 171 boys there for a ten day session. Many subjects allied with the conservation theme were stressed including strenuous workouts on the rifle range. The shooting program was affiliated with the NRA under the Association's summer camp charter plan.

Each group of 50 boys heard lectures on firearms safety given by Clint Ganster of the State Game Commission and by Warden Reed. Many of them then proceeded to earn NRA junior qualifications. The quality of the shooting was demonstrated by eight boys firing perfect scores in special competition.

The increasing popularity of shooting instruction for such groups was noted by C. W. Stoddart, Jr., Extension Director of the State College School of Physical Education and Athletics, in his report when he said "One of the most interesting activities was the .22 rifle firing."

TOURNAMENT DESIGNATION

For the past several years NRA registered tournaments have been identified as class AAA, AA, A B, or C, to designate whether it was an international, national, regional, state or local shoot. At the last meeting of the NRA Executive Committee the body voted to delete the letter designations. From now on the formal title of the tournament alone will identify the tournament. For example, a regional championship will no longer be called a class A tournament, but will be referred to as "The Northeastern Regional Small-Bore Rifle Championship". By the same token a state championship will not be class B but will be known as the "New Jersey State Pistol Championship". A registered tournament of local nature will be called, for instance, "Crow Foot Rod and Gun Club's Annual Spring Gallery Pistol Tournament."

The required number of rounds for the various types of tournaments will remain unchanged.

1949-'50 GALLERY LEAGUES

Club officials and league secretaries are urged to organize their winter leagues immediately and to send the entry forms and league by-laws to the NRA Headquarters office at the earliest possible date. The closing date for league registration is January 15, 1950.

As in previous years, the scores fired in NRA Registered Leagues are counted in the individuals' national classification. It is an excellent opportunity for new shooters to earn their rating—firing in friendly competition.

In addition to individuals earning classification through registered league competition, the teams fire for NRA league, state and national championships awards.

The course of fire and general league by-laws are established by the league members. Detailed information on league conditions, courses of fire, awards and reports are contained in the copy of 1949-1950 League Conditions recently sent to all NRA Affiliated Clubs and former league officials. This information will be sent to other interested individuals upon request.

1950 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eleven smallbore rifle and eleven pistol regional championship tournaments for 1950 were authorized by the NRA executive committee at its meeting during the Denver convention. The date of the national championships, both rifle and pistol, has been tentatively set in the last week of September so that the twenty-two regional championships may be spread over a longer portion of the outdoor shooting season. In 1950 it will be possible for regional championships to be held over the Labor Day weekend thus making it possible for more of the regional championships to serve their proper purpose of providing a climax to the state championships within the individual regions.

The decision by the Executive Committee in Denver followed a week of intensive discussion in convention sessions and by the special smallbore and pistol committees with the result that, for the first time, pistol regionals and smallbore regionals will be operated under different regulations.

One of the topics that came up for much discussion concerned the question of geographical boundaries for competitive regions. The Executive Committee accepted the recommendation from the pistol committee that, for pistol regional championships, the regional boundaries be re-established so that eligibility in the regional championship aggregate, will be restricted to residents of the region concerned. Individual matches in the regional pistol championships will be open to any NRA member. In the case of smallbore regional championships the Executive Committee accepted the recommendation of the smallbore committee that the same eligibility rules be followed as in 1949. Smallbore regional championships will be open to anyone with the proviso that a competitor may shoot in only one small-bore regional. This may be the regional of his choice without regard to his place of residence.

The other major point on which the pistol and smallbore regionals parted company was on the matter of prize awards. In 1949 the National Rifle Association supplied all regional championship awards and the host clubs which operated the regional tournaments were not permitted to add any additional awards to the NRA schedule. The smallbore rifle committee recommended that this procedure be continued for the smallbore regional championships in 1950 and their recommendation was accepted by the Executive Committee. The pistol committee recommended that the National Rifle Association budget for regional pistol awards be expended entirely for prizes in the regional championship aggregate with the emphasis on providing trips to the national championships for regional winners, all prizes in the individual matches making up the aggregate to be provided by the host organization conducting the tournament.

At least one trip to the nationals will be provided by the National Rifle Association in every regional championship. These trips will be passed down to the next highest eligible competitor if the winner cannot accept the trip.

For 1950, host organizations conducting regional championship tournaments will be required to provide adequate range facilities to enable the matches to be fired in two relays for small-bore and in four relays for pistol. Entries in each tournament must be limited to the number that can be accommodated in

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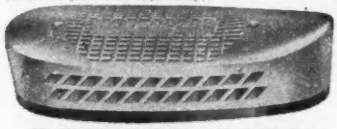

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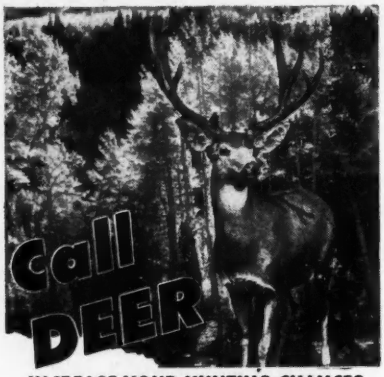

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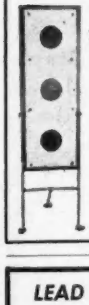

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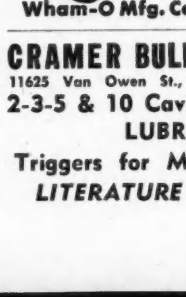

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the prescribed number of relays. Clubs wishing to conduct one of the regional championship tournaments must expect to provide an adequate number of qualified and trained personnel, the necessary supplies including targets, programs, bulletins, etc. The large outdoor bulletin boards which proved their popularity this year are being made standard equipment and, for rifle tournaments, a rack on which fired targets may be displayed will also be a requirement. The National Rifle Association will, in its turn, relinquish to the conducting organization all match entry fees, will furnish the awards in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Committee and will furnish the official referee.

The National Rifle Association has notified all of its clubs and affiliated state associations that bids to conduct 1950 regional championships are being solicited and that they must be received prior to December 15th. This deadline has been established so that the dates and locations for all regional championship tournaments can be announced in January.

NRA RANGE PLANS

The NRA realized several years ago that hundreds of its clubs and members throughout the country would like to build a new indoor or outdoor range but could not consider the project because of the prohibitive costs involved. One of the major problems was the high fees charged by architects to design and prepare blueprints of an indoor or outdoor range.

To lick the problem the association added to its staff a graduate engineer and had him design complete plans for all types of ranges. By the end of 1946 the NRA had the designs available and the plans were complete to the final detail.

The outdoor pistol plans include the construction details for turning targets, three different layouts for the control of targets, the firing line shelters, international rapid-fire pistol panels, etc. The same is true of the plans for the other ranges. For example, pit details are taken care of in the big-bore plans. The basic range house has floor and exterior elevations plans and go down the line to furniture designs for the statistical office. No item, no matter how minor, involved in the construction of a range or range house is overlooked.

Since 1946 over 300 NRA-designed ranges have been built. The drawings are available, free of charge, to any club interested in building a new range or improving one now in operation. Write to the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., for any plan or plans listed below and they will be forwarded immediately.

(1) Indoor range plans—
  a. Indoor rifle range.
  b. Indoor pistol range.
  c. part time range plans.
  d. target carrier system.
(2) Outdoor Smallbore range plans—
  a. plans for smallbore ranges.
  b. double target system (backing targets).
  c. Firing line shelters.
  d. building backstop.
  e. novelty targets (swinging, etc.).
(3) Outdoor High Power range plans—
  a. target pits.
  b. backstop.
  c. target carrier construction.
  d. equipment storage.
(4) Outdoor pistol range plans—
  a. turning targets.
  b. sheltered firing points.
  c. International bobbing targets (Rapid Fire).
  d. target frame details.
(5) Basic Range House—
  a. range house.
  b. statistical office.
  c. club rooms.

COMING EVENTS

Tournaments listed below include all state and district championships as well as local tournaments registered with the National Rifle Association as of November 1, 1949. After the publication date of the 1949-1950 Gallery League Schedule only the state and district championships will be listed in the Coming Events columns of The Rifleman.

Tournaments requiring advance entries are indicated by (adv.). Tournaments limiting the number of entries that can be accepted are indicated by (ltd.).

Always write to the Tournament Sponsor for a program in advance of any registered tournament you plan to attend. It is your assurance that you will know all the details of the tournament conditions.

By direction of the NRA Executive Committee registered tournaments are no longer designated as Class AA, Class A, Class B, and Class C. The International, National and Regional tournaments will be so designated by title. These tournaments are controlled entirely by the NRA Headquarters. The district championships, state championships and other tournaments sponsored by local organizations, will also be properly designated by their title instead of by letter designation.

DECEMBER

4 ARIZONA—Club Championship Rifle Tournament at Phoenix, Arizona. Glenn Taylor, 3110 East Manor Drive, Phoenix, Arizona (Adv.-Ltd.)
3-4 KANSAS—Mid Season Gallery Rifle Tournament at Manhattan, Kansas. Jess E. Mosteller, 1216 Thurston, Manhattan, Kansas.
4 WISCONSIN—Fifth Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Gustav Hiltman, 2235 South 58th Street, Westallis 14, Wisconsin.
4 WASHINGTON, D. C.—National Capital Gallery Pistol Tournament at Washington, D. C. T. G. Arnold, 5308 41st Place, Hyattsville, Maryland (Adv.-Ltd.)
11-12 NEW YORK—Metropolitan Winter Gallery Rifle Tournament at New York, New York. Sam Tekulsky, 176 West 87th Street, New York, New York.
10-11 NEBRASKA—American Legion Indoor Rifle Tournament at Alliance, Nebraska. Archie V. Smith, American ISM Committee Post #7, Alliance, Nebraska.
10 MASSACHUSETTS—R. S. Warren Memorial Junior Gallery Rifle Tournament at Lowell, Massachusetts. Joseph F. Cullinan, 344 Beacon Street, Lowell, Massachusetts.
17-18 NEW JERSEY—Second Annual Gallery Pistol Tournament at North Bergen, New Jersey. Frank Svec, Box 42, Leonia, New Jersey.

JANUARY

8 WASHINGTON, D. C.—National Capital Gallery Pistol Tournament at Washington, D. C. T. G. Arnold, 5308 41st Place, Hyattsville, Maryland (Adv.-Ltd.)
13-15 NEW JERSEY—Gallery Rifle Tournament at Vineland, New Jersey. Naomi Ray Lange, 513 N. W. Boulevard, Vineland, New Jersey.
14-15 and 21-22 ILLINOIS—Gallery Rifle Tournament at Aurora, Illinois. Kester E. Brewer, 387 Manor Place, Aurora, Illinois.
28-29 OHIO—Fifth Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament at Canton, Ohio. Owen G. Smith, 2107 Myrtle Avenue, N. W., Canton, Ohio (Adv.-Ltd.)
29 CALIFORNIA—Associated Gun Clubs of San Diego Small Bore Rifle Tournament at San Diego, California. F. Z. Tackley, Box 185, Old Town Station, San Diego, California.
29 PENNSYLVANIA—Fifth Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament at Somerton, Pennsylvania. M. Zugermayer, Box 9, Southampton, Pennsylvania.
29 MINNESOTA—Second Annual Minnesota Winter Carnival Pistol Tournament at St. Paul, Minnesota. Cy B. Woods, 2048 North Cleveland Avenue, St. Paul 8, Minnesota.

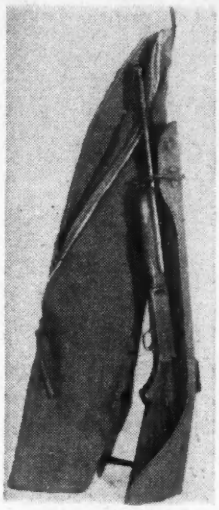
FEBRUARY

5 WASHINGTON, D. C.—National Capital Gallery Pistol Tournament at Washington, D. C. T. G. Arnold, 5308 41st Place, Hyattsville, Maryland (Adv.-Ltd.)
11-12 OHIO—Second Annual Gallery Pistol Tournament at Canton, Ohio. Owen G. Smith, 2107 Myrtle Avenue, N. W., Canton, Ohio (Adv.-Ltd.)
11-12 and 18-19 ILLINOIS—Fifth Annual Great Lakes Gallery Rifle Tournament at Chicago, Illinois. Helen G. Van Gaston, 10951 South Vernon Avenue, Chicago 28, Illinois.
19 MINNESOTA—Eighth Annual Minnesota Arrowhead Gallery Rifle Tournament at Virginia, Minnesota. Iver Hagg, 108 South 2nd Avenue, Virginia, Minnesota (Ltd.)
19 OREGON—Medford Gallery Pistol Tournament at Medford, Oregon, D. J. Bolton, 219 Medford Center Building, Medford, Oregon.
25 NORTH CAROLINA—Charlotte Annual Indoor Rifle Tournament at Charlotte, North Carolina. John H. Pierczynski, 1221 East 36th Street, Charlotte 5, North Carolina (Ltd.)
26 PENNSYLVANIA—Fifth Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament at Somerton, Pennsylvania. M. Zugermayer, Box 9, Southampton, Pennsylvania.

MARCH

5 MINNESOTA—Minnesota Arrowhead Gallery Pistol Tournament at Virginia, Minnesota. Iver Hagg, 108 2nd Avenue, Virginia, Minnesota (Ltd.)

SURPLUS-



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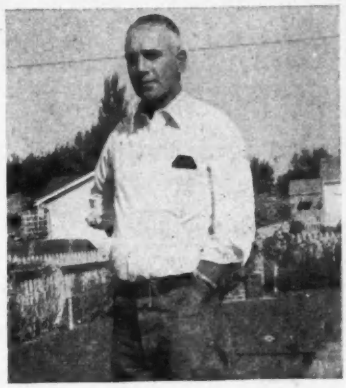

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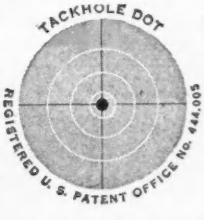

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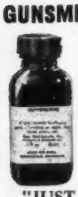

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7-11 FLORIDA—National Mid-Winter Small Bore Rifle Tournament at St. Petersburg, Florida. Neil Cocking, 780 24th Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, Florida (Adv.-Ltd.)

12 WASHINGTON, D. C.—National Capital Gallery Pistol Tournament at Washington, D. C. T. G. Arnold, 5308 41st Place, Hyattsville, Maryland (Adv.-Ltd.)

11-12 NEW JERSEY—Second Annual Gallery State Pistol Championship at North Bergen, New Jersey. Frank Svec, Box 42, Leonia, New Jersey (Adv.-Ltd.)

12 OREGON—Fourth Annual Gallery Rifle Championship at Hillsboro, Oregon. A. P. Tauscher, 1849 S. W. Salmon Street, Portland, Oregon.

11-12 NEW YORK—Annual Indoor Rifle Tournament at Buffalo, New York. Franklyn E. Colby, 1105 Genesee Street, Buffalo, New York.

11-13 NEW JERSEY—Galley Rifle Tournament at Vineland, New Jersey. Naomi Ray Lange, 514 N. W. Boulevard, Vineland, New Jersey.

11-12 and 18-19 ILLINOIS—Midwest Gallery Rifle Championships at Chicago, Illinois. D. D. Simpson, 10643 South Champlain Avenue, Chicago 28, Illinois.

14-18 FLORIDA—National Mid-Winter Pistol Tournament at Tampa, Florida. C. A. Brown, P. O. Box 253, Tampa, Florida (Adv.-Ltd.)

19 OREGON—Medford Gallery Rifle Tournament at Medford, Oregon. D. J. Bolton, 219 Medford Center Building, Medford, Oregon.

20-23 FLORIDA—Flamingo Pistol Tournament at Coral Gables. A. T. Kelley, 12 Alcantana Ave., Coral Gables, Florida (Adv.-Ltd.)

25-26 WISCONSIN—Fox River Valley Spring Gallery Rifle Tournament at West DePere, Wisconsin. Mrs. Charlotte Brown, 1015 Lyndon Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

25-26 NEW YORK—Metropolitan Spring Gallery and Intercollegiate Rifle Team Tournament at New York, New York. Sam Tekulsky, 176 West 87th Street, New York, New York.

25-26 WASHINGTON—Washington State Gallery Rifle Championship at Seattle, Washington. C. M. Styer, 120 West Hudson Street, Seattle 4, Washington.

26 PENNSYLVANIA—Fifth Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament at Somerton, Pennsylvania. M. Zugermayer, Box 9, Southampton, Pennsylvania.

26 GEORGIA—South Atlantic Indoor Pistol Tournament at Savannah, Georgia. Margaret A. Rossignol, 1013 East Duffy Street, Savannah, Georgia.

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F. N. Browning Automatic, Mod. 1922, 7.65 mm., #77400. Joseph L. Boyd, Jr., 309 East Cambridge Ave., College Park, Georgia.

380 Hi-Standard Automatic, Model G, 5-inch barrel, #78268. J. Waldo Rittler, 1374 East Fourteenth Street, San Leandro, California.

Colt Frontier, 38-40, #257410; Colt Frontier, 38-40, #322226; Smith & Wesson, .38 caliber, 2-inch barrel, #27688; Colt .45 Automatic, #1689483; Hi-Standard, HDM, .22 caliber, 6½-inch barrel, #307506; Remington 41 Derringer, #383; Smith & Wesson, .44, #6564. Arthur M. Deirup, 1335 East Sixth St., Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Springfield, .30 caliber, US Govt. M1903, #3154242. B. P. Baumgartner, Box 96, Grass Valley, Oregon.

Dope Bag

NRA TECHNICAL SERVICE

Maj. Gen. J. S. Hatcher, Director

Edwards Brown, Jr. ● A. H. Barr ● J. S. Rose ● M. D. Waite

EDITED BY *Al Barr*

DENVER CONVENTION EXHIBITS

The commercial exhibits at the Second NRA Convention at Denver, Colorado, were more like old "Commercial Row" at Camp Perry, Ohio, than anything that has been seen since the last firing of the National Matches. More than fifty of the country's leading gunsmiths and custom gunmakers were present to show shooters some fine examples of the gunmaker's art. With the other exhibits, these were enough to make delegates 'bug-eyed' with envy.

A new NRA Convention feature, made possible with the cooperation of exhibitors, was a quiz program held on October 19, Wednesday night, in the Exhibit Hall. Previous to the show, all registered delegates were given an opportunity to place their names in a hat from which were drawn twelve 'winners'. The 'winners' were then seated on the platform to face a barrage of 'gun-nut' questions and determine which of the valuable prizes each would win. The first contestant eliminated by the umpire, Gen. J. S. Hatcher, was awarded the Hoppe Gun Cleaning Pack and the last eliminee, the grand prize winner, took the $265.00 Weatherby rifle in .270 caliber donated by Weatherby's Custom Sporting Arms. Other prizes donated by convention exhibitors included two assortments of Mershon products, an assortment of Pointer Products from Southwest Cutlery Co., a Lifetyme Cartridge Die, a Buehler scope mount, a Saeco Electric Melting Furnace, a .22-caliber Pfeifer Rifle Barrel, 1500 .22-caliber Sierra Bullets, a Unertl 4X Hawk Telescope Sight, and a $130.00 Freeland Champion Stock made to the winner's specifications and equipped with an electric bedding attachment.

On Tuesday and Thursday nights, the Convention hall was filled with visitors who came to see the exhibits and to listen to Gen. J. S. Hatcher's talks on new developments in small arms and ammunition identification. Gen. Hatcher's talk on Tuesday was followed by trick shooting performed by NRA Field Representative Lee Echols to the accompaniment of the smooth palaver of Ed Bridgeman, another NRA field man.

Exhibitors and their products at the convention were:

Freeland Scope Stands, 3737 14th Ave., Rock Island, Ill., showed the new B.S.A. Martini International Match Rifle, which represents the combined design efforts of Al Freeland, A. J. Warwick of B.S.A. Ltd., of Birmingham, England, and the regular design engineers of the great B.S.A. gunmaking firm. The new gun is a custom-built match rifle of the highest quality and the utmost manufacturing precision. The barrel is of high point nickel ordnance steel 1⅛ inches in diameter at the breech and ⅞ inch at the muzzle. The barrel length is 29½ inches. The action is of the falling-block Martini type, the same as was used in the long-famous B.S.A. match rifle of enviable reputation, but there are several innovations and improvements which were incorporated at the suggestion of Mr. Freeland. The gun has telescope blocks and scope-height iron sights of exceptional design by Parker-Hale, Ltd. Orders are now being taken at the surprisingly economical price of $135.00 for the rifle complete with sights or $120.00 without sights—a price made possible only by the recent devaluation of the English pound. We expect great things from this new match rifle. In addition Al Freeland had on display the electric bedding device of the three-point contact type, the one he manufactures and one which is gaining in popularity.

Earl Gibbs, 1620 Sheridan Blvd., Denver 14, Colorado, had his booth fixed up with Easton Big Giant reloading presses and one of his own make in which he used his A-D-E bullet-making dies. Gibbs turned out hundreds of .30-caliber bullets during the demonstration sessions.

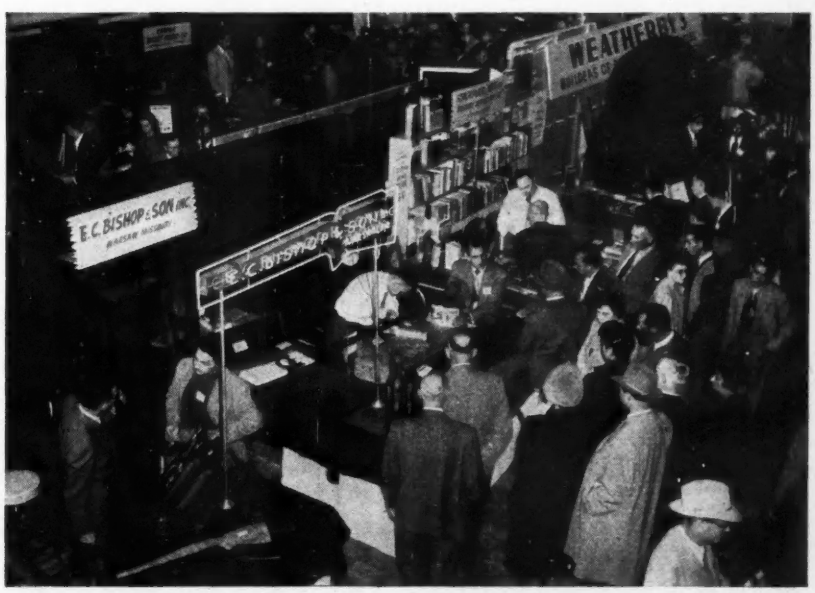
Gibbs has come a long way since his first set of dies was announced. The newest addition to his line is a deluxe set listing at $42.50, or a supreme set listing at $50.00. The supreme set makes bullets of different calibers merely by changing of a replaceable body-forming chamber, nosepiece and ram. It would be a good bet for anyone who wants to make bullets of different calibers; otherwise the deluxe with a ¼-turn removable cap for speedy operation and with replaceable nosepiece forming die would be suitable.

Some excellent performance groups obtained with Gibbs bullets were shown at the convention, indicating the dies are very accurately made and will give excellent results.

Stackpole & Heck and **Military Service Publishing Co.,** Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, had a booth full of gun books presided over by Ray Riling, book dealer of 6844 Gorsten Street, Philadelphia 19, Pennsylvania. At one time at least seven authors were standing around the booth—Herschel Logan, James Serven, Burt Munhall, H. P. White, Walter Howe, Dick Simmons and Lucian Cary. Dick Simmons was on hand to autograph his newest book, *Custom Built Rifles.*

Ray Riling pulled a rabbit out of the hat in the shape of a set of twelve glazed porcelain tiles, each bearing the hand-painted representation in color of some famous historical small arm such as the Henry rifle and Colt Paterson. A set of twelve dinner plates were made up with the same designs, also. The full set of plates or tiles is available from Ray for $30.00.

Riling also showed a small 18-page English translation booklet from the Swedish language covering "Two U. S. Political Gifts of Arms." The description covers two gifts by Abraham Lincoln to the King of Sweden and King of Denmark in 1863. These were



One corner of the exhibit booths at the second annual NRA Convention in Denver

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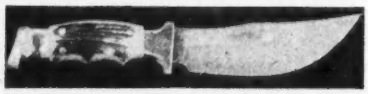

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elaborately engraved, cased Colt percussion pistols.

King Gun Sight Co., 667 Howard Street, San Francisco 5, California, had samples of their sights and their accuracy jobs on handguns. Much interest was also shown in their electronic pistol marksmanship device, in which pressure on the trigger of a facsimile Government .45 projected a cathode ray beam at an electronic cell to score bullseyes or misses. It is a fascinating machine and should be a fine training device.

The heart of the device is a photoelectric cell set in the bullseye of a target. The photoelectric cell activates electrical relays to record hits scored by a 2,200 volt beam of light produced by a special bulb installed in the barrel of the facsimile pistol. The current model is available in the .45 Government model, size, weight and balance of the handgun being maintained. The device, called the King Electronic Score Master, may be set up in a space of from eight to thirty-five feet. The present price is $250.00.

Easton Engineering Co., Inc., 1116 S. State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, was represented by the capable J. W. Williams, who has designed a new bulletmaking and reloading press. A very unique reloading die was also demonstrated, which is designed so that after sizing, the powder charge may be poured into the case and the bullet seated in a continuous operation. This clever arrangement is only one of the Williams designs.

In addition, Mr. Williams was demonstrating the ease of making bullets in a single piece die using the older Easton Big Giant reloading press. The new Super Giant reloading tool, complete for one caliber, lists at $46.00 and the press alone at $27.00.

The Easton bullet-forming dies list at $39.50 for any caliber. Some of the bullets made in these dies in .30-'06 caliber have proven quite accurate.

Roy Gradle, 205 W. Islay Street, Santa Barbara, California, showed examples of his custom gun work, particularly his rather novel left-hand action. Operated by cog-like teeth, milled in the rear end of the bolt, which mesh with similar teeth on the separate bolt handle pivoted on the left side of the action, it has the advantage of not requiring an alteration of the cams or locking lugs on the bolt. Gradle's is probably the safest left-hand conversion job that we know of.

Gradle was justly proud of the .30-.348 wildcat which he builds on the model 71 Winchester lever-action rifle. Made by necking the .348 case down to .30 caliber, it has shown excellent possibilities. Gradle is willing to build bull pup rifles for those who are interested.

Some very nice examples of stock work were on display, done by Fred A. Seegert, who does Gradle's work.

E. C. Bishop & Son, Inc., Warsaw, Missouri, had a number of fancy, carved stocks in their exhibit. Much interest was attracted by their stock carver, Mr. Joseph Basler, who worked in the booth during the convention doing artistic wood carving on stocks right under the eyes of many interested spectators who crowded around him. His expert handling of the wood carving tools was indeed fascinating to watch. In addition, Reinhart Fajen, now with Bishop, was present showing some of his nice inletting and carving work.

The latest Bishop product is a finished stock, complete and ready to use. Some of these were on display and they looked nice, at a reasonable price. When ordering Bishop's completed stocks at about $32.50, it is best to send your own action and barrel for the final inletting work.

Newest Bishop item is a skeet or 'handful' type fre-end for auto-loading shotguns. Prices for finished job range from $5.00, to $10.00 for extra fancy grade with checkering.

National Shooters Supply, 5531 Illinois Ave., Washington, D. C., announced the opening of a new business by Arthur "Cookie" Cook about the first of the year. Cookie was not present in person since he was preparing to leave for Argentina as a member of the U. S. International team. However, according to Cook's literature, the organization will sell all types of shooters' supplies. In the booth was a sample of a new four-point electric bedder called the "N.S.S.-4 Point", which is to be ready for delivery about the first of the year. The N.S.S. 4 point, like the three-point bedder sold by Freeland, is made under the Brown patent. One reason, no doubt, that Cook has made his bedder four-point contact is that it was a four-point pilot model with which he won the Olympic and National championships in 1948 and established two new national records.

P. O. Ackley Co., Trinidad, Colorado, showed some of his barrel work and also a few completed guns, all of which looked very good. Shown in addition were the latest items, belted cartridges, made in various calibers of reformed .30-'06 cases with a belt similar to that on the .300 H&H. Some of these belted cartridges are working out very well.

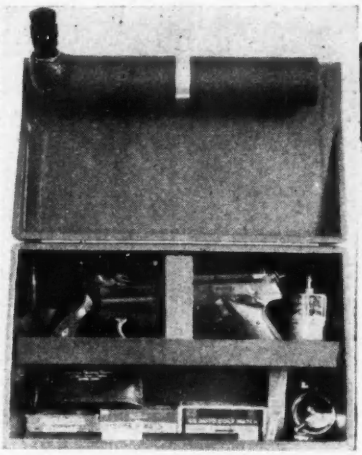
Another interesting item in the exhibit was the controlled expansion bullet Ackley worked out with Russell E. Hightower, who is making these bullets for Ackley now. They will be available in various calibers. Made with a solid copper base and a lead cavity well toward the point for adequate expansion at varying velocities, the bullet is designed so the solid base will provide adequate penetration. Already, tests have proven the idea sound and unquestionably more will be heard about the bullet.

Cramer Bullet Mould Co., 11625 Van Owen Street, North Hollywood, California, represented by Santa Anita Engineering Co., had on display their popular bullet moulds, which are available in most calibers. Two new items were shown. One was a Cramer electronic chronograph, which is electronically calibrated and works on six volt DC current or a car battery. Complete with disjuncture unit, and ready-to-go except for battery, the chronograph retails at a current price of $125.00. The new chronograph, which is very light, weighing only seven pounds less battery, is portable. Shown also was a new Cramer trigger mechanism which will be available for most bolt-action rifles. It is a compact, self-contained unit, easily installed.

Fred T. Huntington, RCBS Gun & Die Shop, 1365 7th Ave., Oroville, California, maker of the RCBS bulletmaking dies and bullet pullers, had a new extra heavy duty reloading and bullet-forming press. Designed with a double-action toggle unit, the press provides adequate power to make even .270- and .30-caliber bullets, and dies for these will be

MERRY CHRISTMAS

from all of us at Badger Shooters Supply



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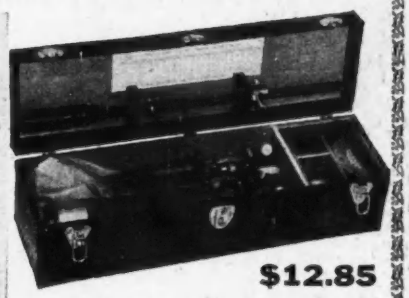

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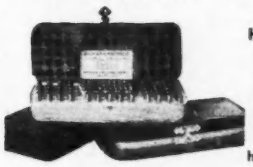

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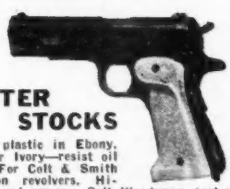

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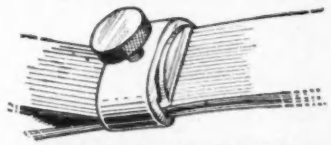

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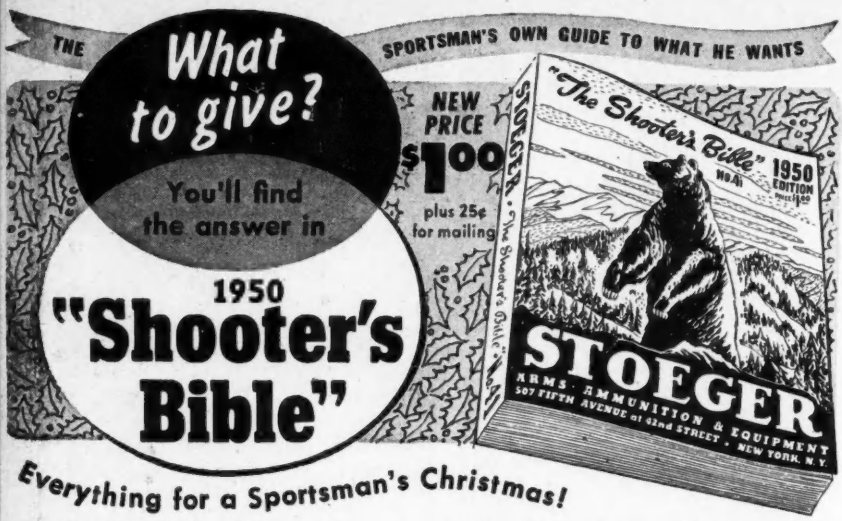
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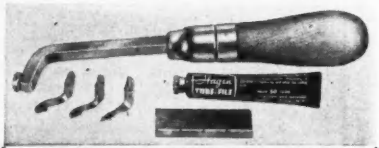

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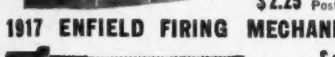

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available in the near future. The new press, to be known as the RCBS reloading and bulletmaking press, will be available in a small and large size. Production will begin shortly after January 1950. We were much impressed with the minimum effort required to make .25-caliber bullets using this new machine.

Miller Arms Laboratory, Kingwood Park, Poughkeepsie, New York, showed the new Miller Kodiak Dream Mount developed by Capt. John M. Miller. This new mount, designed specifically to overcome defects or disadvantages suffered by various other mounts, can be quickly and easily installed on most all bolt-action rifles and some others as well. Capt. Miller demonstrated the ease of installation by using a small hammer and a drift punch to remove the open sight on a model 141 Remington. In less than five minutes, using these tools only, plus an Allen wrench or two, he installed a scope and Miller Kodiak Mount with no drilling, tapping or stock cutting. Once installed, the scope is instantly removable and replaceable.

Dem-Bart Co., Box 700, Tacoma, Washington, showed a couple of answers to the gunsmith's prayer in the form of an electric checkering tool, which not only works at least six times as fast as a hand tool but, more important, makes it possible for anyone who can hold a pen to learn to do creditable checkering in a minimum of time. Also shown was Dem-Bart's new micrometer head for chambering reamers, which, by the aid of a guide bolt and micrometer head, controls the depth of chambering and headspacing accurately to within .001 inch. The tool takes the guesswork out of rechambering for proper headspacing, and in addition serves as an accurate guide for the chambering reamer.

Weatherby's Custom Sporting Goods, 8823 Long Beach Blvd., South Gate, California, had a display of highly decorated custom guns. Weatherby featured his own barrel and finished, inletted gunstocks which he now sells to gunsmiths and dealers. The new Weatherby Sporter with chrome-plated barrel bore, Mashburn Superior trigger, and nice sporting stock, well-inletted and refinished, is considered to be a very good value.

The newest Weatherby item, in addition to the plastic powder funnels, is a reloading block which on one side accepts cartridges of the .30-'06 size and .300 H&H Magnum size on the other.

With Weatherby this year was Dick O'Neil, who heads the Optical Department, a new branch of the Weatherby firm.

J. W. Hornady, 216 W. Fourth Street, Grand Island, Nebraska, showed a 16-mm. film of the quantity production line for making his justly esteemed bullets. He bought machinery from Government surplus, including the very latest and most advanced straight-line bullet presses as used at Frankford Arsenal and other Ordnance plants, and established a full-scale bullet factory. He is, therefore, able to produce bullets not only in quantity, but of assured uniform quality. We have used his bullets in a number of different calibers and some of the best accuracy obtained has been with the Hornady spire-point bullets. The smallest group we have ever made with any .30-caliber bullet was with the 180-grain Hornady round-nose soft-point design.

L. M. Brownell, Sheridan, Wyoming, had some very nice gunstocks on display. Considering the price of $100 or more, they are very good values. Inletting of the stocks is supreme, and shape and general appearance is in keeping with the inletting. Brownell takes great pride in his stock work—and rightly so, judging by the numerous examples we looked over.

Displayed at the same booth also was some very nice metal engraving done by W. E. McDonald of the Eads Manufacturing Co., 3204 W. Colfax Ave., Denver, Colorado.

Davidson Manufacturing Co., 5146 Alhambra Ave., Los Angeles 32, California, showed their excellent Mark 245 spotting scope, which needs no introduction. Shown also was their new line of scope stands, which we like very much indeed. We are particularly impressed with the new 'observation' scope stand which holds the scope at any height for a man standing. We have been using one of these new stands and think it is about the best of its kind we have ever seen, and that goes also for the low model stands of the same design. The firm has given some thought to bringing out a new hunting scope with a number of interesting features. Production is not yet under way, but the pilot model we saw looked very interesting.

Redfield Gunsight Co., 3315 Gilpin Street, Denver, Colorado, the outstanding host at the second NRA convention, had an attractive display showing the steps in the production of the No. 70 and the Olympic sights.

The Redfield shop, which we visited, is humming at the rate of two shifts per day with approximately one hundred employees. Although the factory is strictly modern and efficient, it cannot keep up with orders, because of the popularity of the Redfield products.

The principal item in production is the Redfield No. 70 receiver sight, with the Redfield Junior mount coming a close second. The very popular Olympic sight is a close third, and Redfield is now producing about five times as many of these front and rear sights as were produced a year ago.

M. H. Canjar, 4476 Pennsylvania Street, Denver, Colorado, well-known for his excellent single set-triggers, has added many to the line. He has a new, plain single trigger for the model 52 Winchester at $22.50, which with an addition can be made to a single set at $32.50. Unique on this trigger is the feature of replacing the set-trigger proper with a plain trigger so as to make it legal for use in small-bore matches, yet replace the plain trigger and have a single set for other uses. The Canjar all-purpose buttplate and palm rest are other interesting items which were shown. Another new item is the Canjar plain trigger without set mechanism, priced at $15.00, for most bolt-action rifles.

Fuller Tool Co., 3950 W. Eleven Mile Road, Berkley, Michigan, was displaying some of its very nicely finished and ground chambering reamers. Available from Fuller stock are at least thirty-six different reamers, covering most of the popular calibers, including shotgun chambering reamers, at the reasonable price of $12.50 each for either the roughing or finishing reamers. These reamers are precision ground from high-speed steel and honed to .0005-inch tolerance. The final operation is a liquid honing job which

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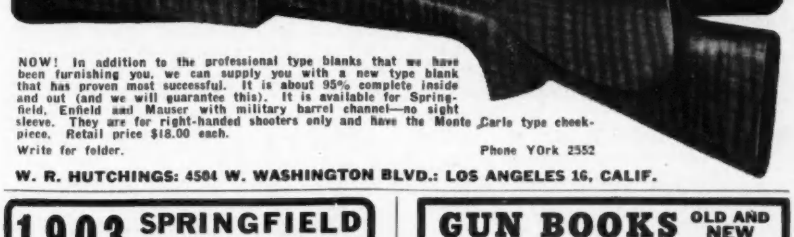

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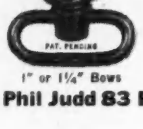

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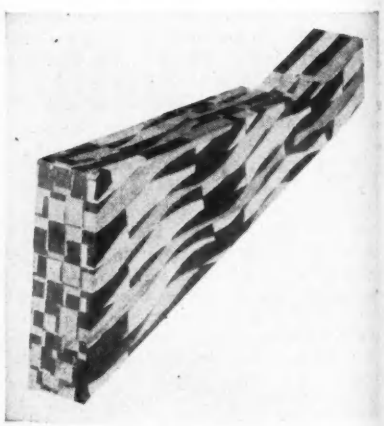
leaves a somewhat frosted finish that can be misleading. Liquid honing removes all burrs from the previous steps of manufacture, thus making possible an extremely smooth finishing job.

Life-Tyme Dies, 2435 E. Colorado Street, Pasadena 8, California, having tungsten carbide inserts were shown by Paul C. Knepp in the SAECO booth. On display were some enormous wire and tube drawing dies with tungsten carbide inserts costing as much as $400.00 per die. The Life-Tyme dies are available for any straight-sided pistol cartridge, from the .32 S&W Special up to the .45 ACP. One of these dies used by the Los Angeles Police Department has resized 2,000,000 cartridge cases before being worn out. Another die being used in San Fernando, California, has gone 1,100,000 rounds and is still going strong.

Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N. Y., was present demonstrating and showing its excellent binoculars and the newest Variable Power hunting scope and B&L mount, which has a quick-detachable feature. Optically second to none, the B&L scope is quite popular. Now there is also available an adjustable aperture rear sight which fits on the B&L mount once the scope is removed. In a matter of seconds either the scope or the aperture sight may be fitted to the rifle. Having its own adjustments, this interesting little sight is known as the auxiliary iron sight. Listing at only $2.75, it is a valuable auxiliary for anyone owning the B&L scope and mount.

Bruns Custom Gun Shop, Marion, Iowa, had on display a very unusual laminated stock blank. Made up of pieces of walnut and maple wood, these stocks can best be described as 'zebra-like' in appearance. They



Laminated stock blank shown by Bruns Gun Shop

are made by the most unusual type of lamination we have seen. The patented process of lamination is still a secret, but the stock blanks are available made up of walnut and maple laminations or cherry and walnut at $30.65 each. Our own blank, being made up of wild cherry and walnut, will consist of approximately 1800 separate pieces of wood.

Santa Anita Engineering Co., 2435 E. Colorado Street, Pasadena 8, California, was demonstrating the brand new electric melting furnace with thermostatically controlled

heat unit as described in the November Dope Bag. A demonstration with the aid of a pyrometer indicated that the temperature of the lead alloy can be maintained to within 20 degrees F., plus or minus, for any given setting from 450 to 850 degrees F. The SAECO powder measure, which is popular among bench-rest shooters, was also on display.

Roy Vail, Warwick, New York, displayed some of the fine custom-built rifles and shotguns which he makes. The beautiful wood inlays and metal engraving are among the best. One of Vail's specialties is to take good quality shotgun actions in the white and build complete guns around them. He can fit Belgian-made and proof-tested barrels to old doubles now having Damascus barrels. Vail prefers to work only on the best of actions, as the cost of the work is rather high. One of the nicest guns viewed was a little over-under built complete by Vail, except for the action.

Maynard P. Buehler, Orinda, California, had several new items to add to his already popular line of low-position safeties and bridge mounts. Among these were the bolt-bending blocks displayed with a step-by-step procedure which looks rather simple, when instructions are followed. Another item is split rings for the Buehler mount to accept the Lyman Challenger and the 4X Bear Cub scope with internal adjustments. At present the split rings are available at $12.50 only for these two scopes, or for $20.00 when furnished complete with mount for any rifle.

Brownell Industries, Inc., Montezuma, Iowa, had in its booth about everything which one could think of for the gunsmith; if not in the booth, then at least in the big catalog which Bob Brownell got out a short time ago. (The catalog, selling at $1.50, is mighty good reading and well worth the price, even if you don't intend to order anything.) Among the newest items on display by Bob Brownell were the Denman woodworking chisels and gouges which Brownell handles. These tools were viewed by a number of prominent gunsmiths and the reaction was in every case favorable. It seems Brownell has a knack at selecting the proper tools for the gunsmith.

A. B. Harris, P. O. Box 505, Gary, Indiana, national representative for Brownell Industries, was in the same booth with Bob Brownell. Harris featured the Magic Bluer, a new cold chemical for bluing guns, which is best for touch-up work, although complete guns have been blued by this process in a minimum of time. Another very worthwhile item is the 'Handy Andy' for instant blue-blackening different alloys, including aluminum, brass, solder, silver solder, nickel and copper.

Herb Glass, Bullville, New York, had a display guaranteed to make any gun collector's mouth water. For example, in the original boxes were a Paterson Colt and a flat-top Bisley that had never been fired. Glass also showed a Springfield, serial No. 37, with rod bayonet and Buffington rear sight which did not leave the Denver market because it was so rare. Glass indicated that his contacts at the conventions have been so worthwhile that he is surprised more antique dealers have not been interested.

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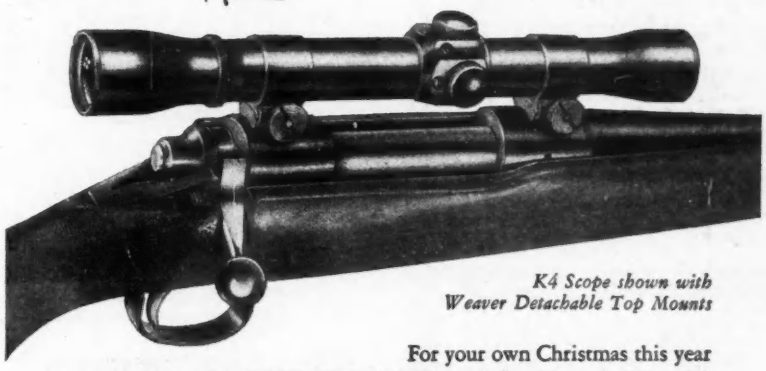

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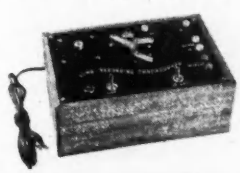

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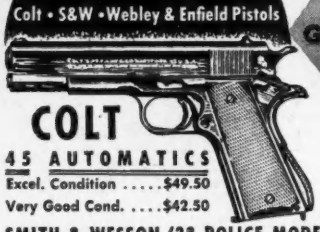

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Gartman Custom Guns, 12 Reckfield Avenue, Cranston, Rhode Island, displayed at least twenty-three custom rifles, including some plain hunting rifles. However, the majority of guns were fully engraved, with many of them having beautifully carved stocks of excellent quality wood. One of the outstanding small items shown by Gartman was about the nicest bolt engine-turning job we have seen. The fancy guns in the Gartman booth were quite an attraction at the convention.

Johnson Automatic Arms Co., Inc., Providence, Rhode Island, was present with a display of its barrels, muzzle brakes, and custom gun work. They no longer specialize in military conversions. Shown was their new .22-caliber six-groove barrel made to very close tolerances. It supplants the old wide-land four-grove barrel which was not too successful.

Trinidad State Junior College, Trinidad, Colorado, showed work by the students of the good gunsmithing course offered by the school. Some of the work by students was highly impressive indeed. A few of the students were present at the exhibit, and were quite enthusiastic about the training they are getting.

John Unertl Optical Co., 3551 East St., Pittsburgh N. S., Pennsylvania, showed the well-known line of target and hunting sights for which the company is famous. The latest line of hunting scopes includes the 2-¾X Falcon, the 4X Hawk, and 6X Condor, all of which are quite popular. These scopes are now available with steel main tubes, which are recommended for use in connection with mounts such as the Stith Master mount.

Micro Sight Co., 5813 Mission Street, San Francisco, California, besides their well-known line of Micro Pistol Sights, showed accuracy jobs on .45 auto and .38 Super-Auto, short-action revolver jobs, Micro checkering on front and back straps, as well as many other accuracy aids for handguns. Shown also were a complete line of Micro rifle front sights with 1/16-inch gold-tipped beads. These sights are available for most standard rifles.

Chemical Specialties Co., Box 1253, Oakland, California, represented in the Micro Sight Co. booth, is well-known for its excellent line of gun cleaning and gun preserving materials. Their tried and tested products are Hart's 77 Sportsmen's High Speed Oil, Hart's 77 Flexovar Angler's Varnish, Hart's Spinner-Sparkle Sportsmen's Polish, Hart's 77 Gun Cleaner and the very dependable Hart's 77 Gun Oil.

Tinsley Laboratories, 2524 Grove Street, Berkeley, California, represented in the Micro Sight Co. booth, showed the latest model of the very popular Saturn Scout spotting scope, which lists at $25.00 and is one of the best spotting scopes in its price range. In addition, Tinsley Laboratories is working on a new Ranger spotting scope with 60-mm. objective lens. This new scope is designed to compete with the better spotting scopes, and it is priced at $82.50.

Merit Gunsight Co., 6144 Monadnock Way, Oakland, California, was represented in the same booth with the Micro Sight Co. Merit

is well-known for producing the Merit melting pot, Merit optical attachment for revolver and pistol shooting, and the Merit iris shutter peep sight discs for both front and rear sights. The newest item is a Merit lens disc for the rifleman who requires optical aid.

Colorado School of Trades, Inc., 8797 W. Colfax Ave., Denver 15, Colorado, was present and some of its finished work was shown. The gunsmithing workshop, of which this school is justly proud, was viewed by many of the convention members on special sightseeing tours. The school has very good facilities for giving gunsmith training at the trade school level.

Decker Bros., Inc., Mason City, Iowa, who have a large sporting goods store, was present with the famous Dex-Kleen gun wiper. Newly packaged at 59¢ each, the small oval sheepskin gun wipers impregnated with special rust preventives are very popular, and they do a good job. Testimonials in favor of Dex-Kleen gun wipers from all over the world were noted with interest.

Colorado Saddlery Co., 1527-18th Street, Denver 2, Colorado, were displaying all kinds of nicely carved and tooled leather goods. The company is featuring a new gun mat, a zippered sheep-lined hand-tooled leather case for handguns. A complete line of cartridge boxes and gun cases made of tooled leather are available from the firm.

Sims Stoves, Lovell, Wyoming, showed a very neat folding camp stove which weighs only 31 pounds and can be carried like a suitcase when knocked down and placed in its canvas cover. This general-purpose camping stove is used extensively in the U. S. Forest Service, a good recommendation.

Stith Mounts, Transit Tower, San Antonio, Texas, displayed their line of mounts and Bear Cub 2½-, 4- and 6-Power scopes in a number of the booths. The latest shown was the 6X Bear Cub, both with and without internal adjustments. The optical excellence of this scope should appeal to the varmint shooter.

V. H. Blackinton & Co., Inc., Attleboro Falls, Mass., displayed medals and trophies for all occasions. The interesting exhibit of many different types of medals and badges was handled by the well-known Gene Mitchell.

Each woman who attended the banquet and dance received an attractive favor from the Blackinton Co.

Evaluators, Limited, of Quantico, Virginia, was represented by George O. Van Orden, retired Marine brigadier general, and Phil Roettinger. This company was organized recently for the purpose of discovering and fulfilling arms and equipment requirements for law enforcement and military agencies by means of testing and evaluation. The firm displayed Heiser and Myres leather goods, information about McAvoy Electronic Target Equipment and Smith & Wesson revolvers.

Included in the display was the new S & W K-38 Service Masterpiece, which is a development of Evaluators, Ltd., and presents a service type, four-inch barrel revolver equipped with adjustable sights, broad hammer spur, trigger stop and Baughman quick-draw front sight. We were told that this $65.00 handgun would be ready for delivery on November first.

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RANGER 60

With perfection-ground, fluoride coated lenses, choice of 12, 20, or 30 power eyepiece, 60 mm objective diameter, 104 ft. field of vision and 30 ft minimum focus, the prismatic Ranger 60 is truly a spotting 'scope of Championship Specifications. The price? Only $82.50.

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6.5x57 rim, 154 gr., per 100	12.00
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8x57 rim, 196 gr., per 100	13.00
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8x72 rim, 151 gr., per 100	13.50
8.15x46 rim, 150 gr., per 100	12.50
9.3x72 rim, 193 gr., per 100	15.00
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Salt & Pepper Shooters red & green	1.50
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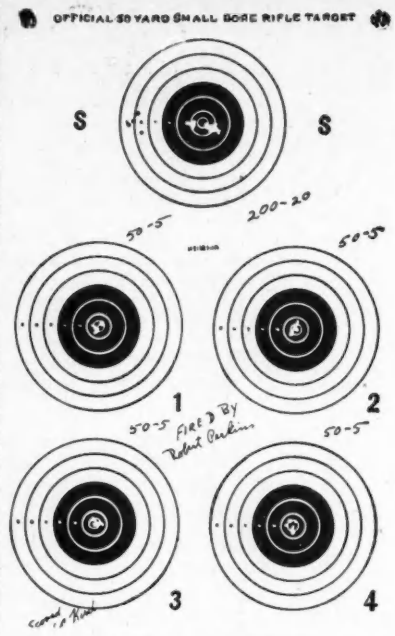

Robert E. Perkins · Calif. State Small bore champion, 1949. Pacific Coast champion New World's course record,. 1949.

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Hood	$1.10	Ivory Bead	$1.10
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H. C. NIELSEN 630 Congress Street Neenah, Wisconsin

Boy Scouts of America were represented in a booth spotlighting an intriguing scale model of a standard Scout camp small-bore rifle range. A large working model, complete in every detail, it demonstrated three types of moving or pivoting targets that were string-and-pulley operated from a position under the miniature-covered firing points.

Colt's Manufacturing Co., one of the two gun firms present, exhibited nine Colt handguns and a .22-45 conversion unit to convention delegates and other visitors. Mr. Harold W. Kline and Mr. John M. McKenna answered hundreds of questions about the featured 4½-inch barrel Match Target Woodsman Pistol, a brand new handgun designed to meet the demand of many pistoleers. Also of special interest was the new Officer's Model Special .38 and .22 revolver equipped with plastic grips and selling for $75.00.

Homer Brown of Sun Valley, California, attracted the attention of delegates with the free-sample display of Sierra bullets at his booth.

Another eyecatcher was the panel of Pfeifer barrels showing progress from the original blank down to the finished product. At the bottom of the board was a gigantic octagonal .50-caliber barrel weighing approximately 25 pounds. A variety of custom jobs by Pfeifer were also on hand, with Kennedy's woodwork showing off to advantage.

Most of the Mershon products were also in evidence. The new White Line progressive action recoil absorber was the most recent addition to the Mershon line, and it was received warmly.

Hagen Engineering, 5211 S. Monitor Ave., Chicago 38, Illinois, was showing several new tools which are designed for use on the single handle which fits his well-known inletting chisels and gouges, of many different shapes and sizes. Among these were three interchangeable checkering tool heads, with three, two and single line cutters of twenty lines per inch. Including a unique sharpening block and a special resharpening compound for the checkering tools, the complete checkering set with handle lists at $5.50. To be used on the same handle for barrel and receiver inletting work Hagen has designed five interchangeable scrapers which are supplied in a kit, complete with handle, for $3.50.

The very popular Hagen Gun-Tatoo engraving kit for decorating blued surfaces was also demonstrated.

Southwest Cutlery & Manufacturing Co. of Montebello, California, represented by Mr. N. A. Ackerman and Mr. W. E. Lewis, demonstrated the Clearsight Telescope Filter, designed to cut the effect of haze, to reduce glare, and to brighten the image of a shaded object. The glass is similar to that used for the same purpose in photography. Other products on display were Pointer handgun grips, recoil pads, buttplate spacers, and plastic inlays.

National Target Company display consisted of sample rifle and pistol targets as standardized by the National Rifle Association. Attention was centered on the frangible Bustible Bullseyes and Targ-O-Tabs, which

provide a convenient method of pasting targets.

S. D. Myres Saddle Co. of El Paso, Texas, was represented by Mr. Dace Myres and his father, 'Tio Sam' Myres, a colorful Westener with long, white hair. It has been a number of years since Sam Myres started the firm which today specializes in western leather goods. Holsters to meet a variety of needs including "the fast draw" were featured at the NRA show.

Lion Brothers, Inc., maintained a very colorful display of Swiss embroidered brassards and other cloth shooting awards. This Baltimore, Maryland, firm is well-known for its production of beautiful national match, regional and local march brassards seen by the thousands along today's firing lines.

Frank A. Hoppe of Philadelphia featured his gun cleaning pack which includes the famous Hoppe's Nitro Powder Solvent No. 9, his lubricating oil, and Hoppe's Gun Grease. The kit also contains a supply of canton flannel cleaning patches available in seven different sizes. Many of the delegates and visitors took advantage of the opportunity to discuss gun cleaning problems with Mr. Hoppe, who was present at the booth during the entire show.

Hermann H. Heiser Saddlery Co. of Denver took advantage of the NRA Convention to make its first booth-type exhibition in twenty-eight years. Their display included a variety of western-style leather work on gun cases, holsters, cartridge boxes and high quality saddles. Since most of Heiser's work is done on an order basis, it is rare that more than a little stock is accumulated at any one time.

Harrington & Richardson offered a neat exhibit display, under Mr. William E. Rowe, of eleven H&R firearms, with the model 451 Medalist in the feature position. Other guns shown included model 250 Sportster rifle, model 151 Leatherneck, and several revolvers.

BOOK REVIEWS

DOVES AND DOVE SHOOTING

By Byron W. Dalrymple

Wild doves, whose rolling, dipping, swerving, swift-winged flight makes them the most difficult and exciting of all upland game-bird targets, have long needed a book of their own. Dalrymple has produced an excellent one—well-written, practical and most informative.

Written primarily for sportsmen, its main sections cover the three dove species that are legal game birds in the U. S.—the mourning dove, the white-winged dove, and the band-tailed pigeon. Individual chapters give their life histories, habits, how, where and when to hunt them, what guns and loads to use, what methods to follow, and finally how to cook them—if you are gunner enough to hit one.

This is a thoroughly satisfactory book in all respects, save one: there's no index.

CAPT. FRANK BENNETT, Eastern Air Lines 3,000,000-mile pilot. 1946 Grand American Trapshooting Champion.
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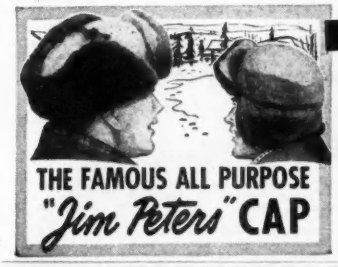

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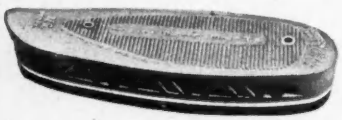

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NEW* HEAVY *BARREL
for the Colt O.M.T.

Improves shooting and adds points to your score. Barrel length — 6" Diameter .780 Six groove and a twist of one turn in—14". Adds 4 oz. in .38 Cal. Fitted with the new Master undercut front sight. Our new Master fixed front sight and Micro rear sight offer the maximum in sight picture definition. Price includes Barrel, Master front and Micro rear sights fitted to your gun in our shop $27.50
On guns now using adjustable rear sight $21.50
We specialize in action work and accuracy jobs on 45 and 38 super automatics.

CHICAGO GUN CENTER
5139 N. LINCOLN AVE. CHICAGO 25, ILL.

If some of the anti-gun legislators would bend their efforts to banning publishers who issue books like this without indexes, they would spend their time much more profitably.
—R. G. McCLOSKEY

(Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1949. 243 pages, illustrations. $4.50. Available through NRA Book Service.)

HUNTING THE AMERICAN GAME FIELD

By L. A. Anderson

The author of this book has attempted to compress into some 300 pages the whole art and science of shooting rifles and shotguns, and at the same time tell the reader how to hunt everything from woodcock to bear.

Writers have tried it before and failed, and Anderson hasn't succeeded either. Anderson knows what he is talking about, but he hasn't got enough room to tell enough of anything to be of value.

The all-around hunting book, like the all-around rifle, doesn't exist.—R. G. McCLOSKEY

(Published by Ziff-Davis, Chicago, 1949. 311 pages, illustrations, index. $3.50. Available through NRA Book Service.)

PROOF LOADS

Will you please give me some information on coloring cartridge cases which are to be used for loads so they will not be mistaken for regular loads?—WILLARD M. BECK, Philadelphia, Penna.

Answer: There are different methods employed in preparing proof loads for identification purposes. One system is to use a red lacquer, smearing the entire head of the cartridge case with it. At Frankford Arsenal the brass cartridge cases are tin plated for identification purposes, but then tin plating could be confused with the Western Match handloads, which are put up in nickel-plated cases. So long as you have control of the proof loads (which I think you should have), then you can use any suitable means of identifying them, though it may not be standard for someone else—A. H. B.

8x56 OR 8x57?

I recently acquired a nice Mannlicher-Schoenauer carbine stamped C-8.2 on the underside of the barrel, which I believe indicates it is an 8x56 Mannlicher caliber. The man who sold it to me claims that a friend used the rifle on a hunting trip with 8x57 Mauser cartridges. He gave me two boxes of ammunition: one box of Western 170-grain 8x57 Mauser and one box of Dominion 8-mm. Mauser Special. These cartridges chamber okay in the gun but I wonder about the advisability of using them.—H. L. BATES, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Answer: C-8.2 does mean 8x56 Mannlicher and normally an 8x57 would not fit in the gun as the cartridge is a little too long for the chamber. It looks as though someone must have reamed your chamber out to fit the more popular 8x57 as the man who sold you the gun has been using that cartridge in it and as the bolt closes on it okay, which it would not do unless the chamber had been reamed out.—J. S. H.

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Rate: 25 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. Advertisements *must be accompanied by remittance,* made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C. *Insertion will not be made until payment is received.*

2. Closing Date: All advertisements must be received with advance payment by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: December 1st for the January issue. Ads received after December 1st and not later than January 1st will be inserted in the February issue.)

3. Who May Advertise: Any individual or firm whose advertisements and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services in the ARMS CHEST.

4. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: We reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

5. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics, or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA, in the case of members.

6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Blind ads, with box numbers *only,* will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

7. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith: H. B., meaning heavy barrel). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (example: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

8. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print ads plainly, for we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

9. Firearms for Sale or Trade Should Be Properly Described: We urgently recommend that the *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, be clearly indicated in accordance with the following *NRA standard descriptions:* PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition; implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

We further recommend that when price lists or catalogs are offered, the *condition* of every weapon or item so listed be properly described in accordance with these NRA standards.

WARNING TO PURCHASERS: The National Rifle Association *will accept no responsibility whatever* for *any* unsatisfactory transactions involving guns or other items which have not been described in accordance with the foregoing NRA standards. It is therefore important for purchasers to *insist* that sellers give full and complete descriptions of all items in accordance with these standards—*before* any such transactions are consummated.

10. Privilege of Examination: Requesting shipment by express C. O. D., *with examination privileges* will permit the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

11. The National Firearms Act forbids the sale of the following: (*a.*) Full automatic machine guns. (*b.*) Rifles and shotguns with barrels less than 18 inches in length or 16 inches in the case of a weapon of .22 or smaller caliber. (*c.*) Handguns such as the Mauser or Luger automatic pistols, when such weapons are equipped with detachable butt stocks, except that all of the above may be sold by a Federal licensed dealer who has paid the special tax required by Section 3260, Internal Revenue Code. NOTE:—"Barrel length", as it applies to the above, is determined by the insertion of a cleaning rod from the muzzle until it comes to rest against the face of the closed breech.

In addition, the NRA has adopted a policy of not accepting advertisements covering small *pocket* pistols or revolvers of less than .38 caliber, or with barrel lengths of 2 inches or less, which have no practical value as target, police or military weapons.

12. Fair Trade Laws: All states with the exception of Missouri, Texas, Vermont and the District of Columbia have Fair Trade laws which permit manufacturers to contract with their distributors to maintain standard retail prices. Dealers who fail to do so are subject to legal action.

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AMMUNITION—THE HARD-TO-GET KIND. 45-70 Black Powder Cartridges, $10.00 per 100. 303 British, metal point military cartridges, $10.00 per 100. 762 Russian metal point military cartridges, $10.00 per 100. 351 Winchester self-loading cartridges, $9.50 per 100. 401 Winchester self-loading cartridges, $12.00 per 100. 45-70 Blank Cartridges, late factory issue, $4.00 per 100. 32 Long Rim Fire Remington Kleanbore cgs., $4.00 per 100. 32 Short Rim Fire Remington Kleanbore cartridges, $3.50 per 100. 25-20 Remington Kleanbore center fire cartridges, $8.00 per 100. 32-20 Remington Kleanbore center fire cartridges, $9.00 per 100. 25 Stevens Short Rim Fire Remington Kleanbore Cartridges, $3.00 per 100. 25 Stevens Long Rim Fire Remington Kleanbore Cartridges, $4.50 per 100. New illustrated catalog of firearms, modern and antique, complete line of sporting goods, war surplus, etc. Send coin 25¢. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

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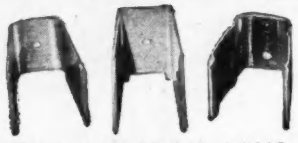

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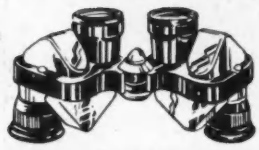

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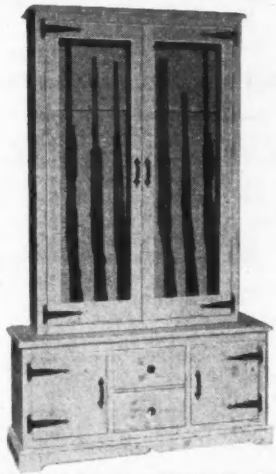

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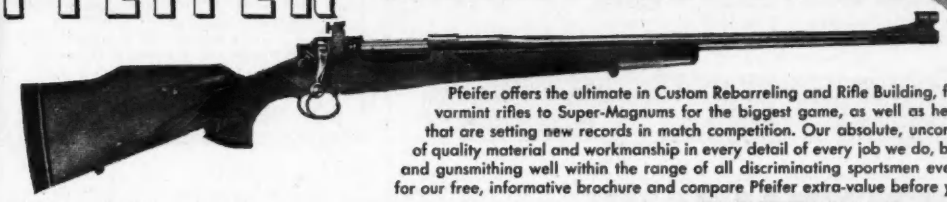

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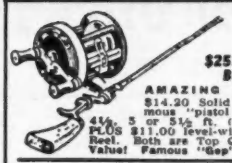

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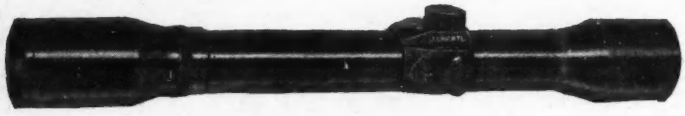

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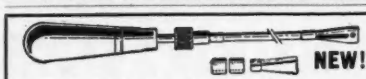

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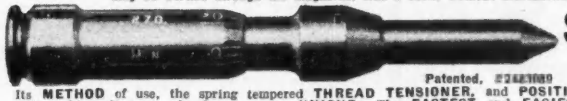

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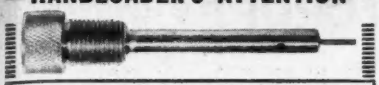

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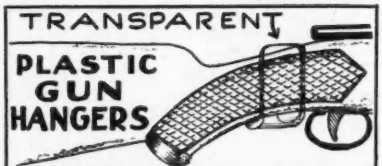

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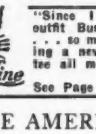

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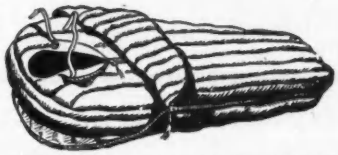

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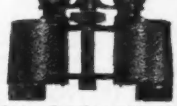

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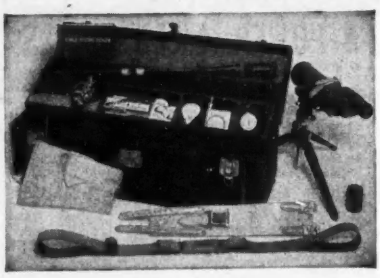

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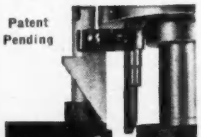

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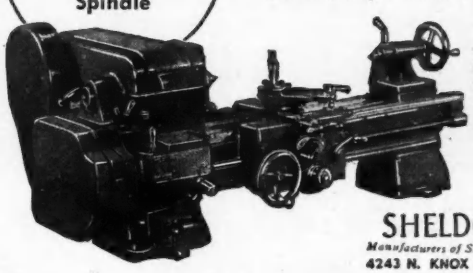

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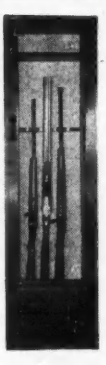

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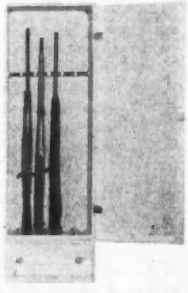

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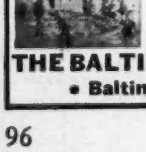

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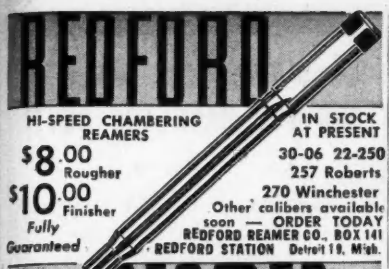

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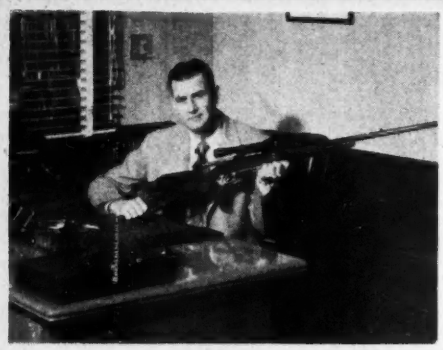

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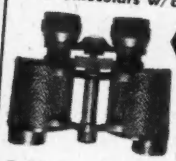

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See Page 97

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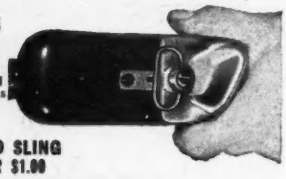

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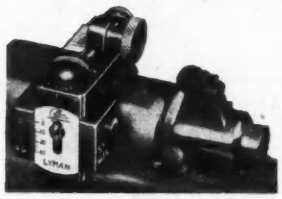

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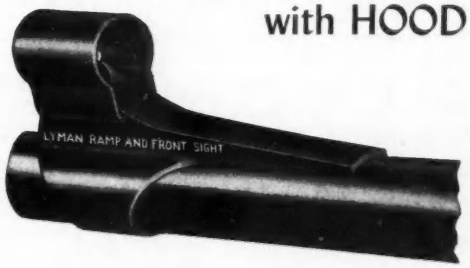

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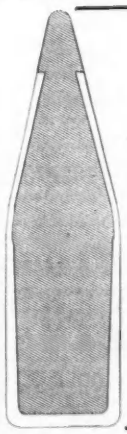

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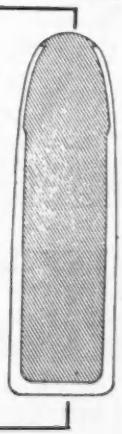

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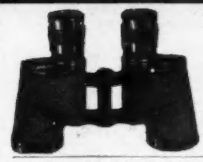

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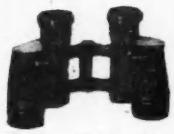

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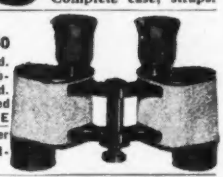

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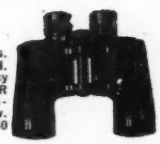

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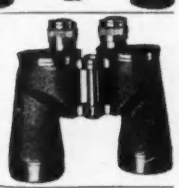

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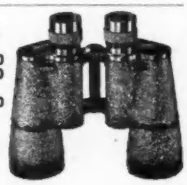

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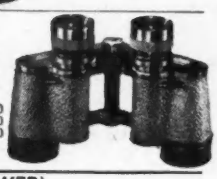

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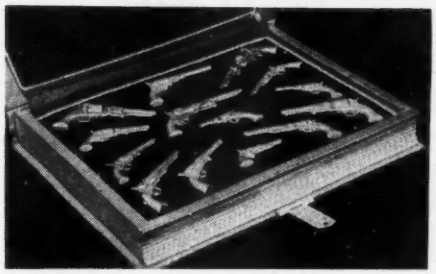

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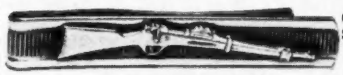

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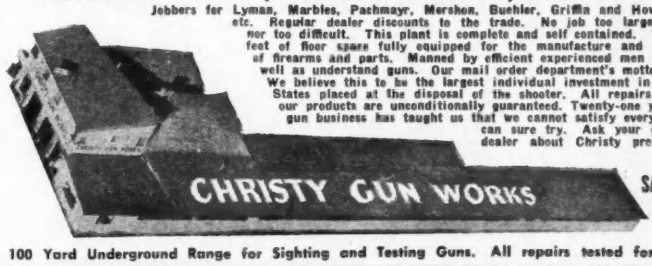

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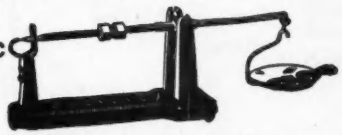

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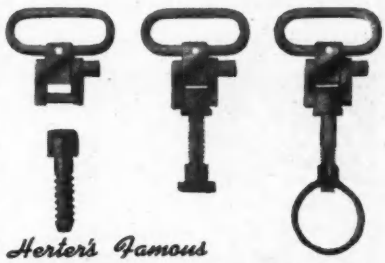

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THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN INDEX

VOLUME 97 — 1949

The index of Volume 97 of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN has been compiled for the benefit of those readers whose interest in firearms or work with guns requires constant reference to the material which has been published in the magazine.

The indexing of 1949 issues has been done in one or more ways: by specific subject and related subjects, by author, and by general subject. Thus, the entries which were made for 'Death at a Distance', a Discussion of Wound Ballistics, by Alexander C. Johnson, M.D. (June 24), may be found under 'Ballistics', 'Johnson', 'Wound' and 'Hunting', while the picture story 'Night Shooting' on illuminated range in Middlefield, Conn., will be found only under 'Night Shooting'. Importance of a subject and the amount of space devoted to it in the magazine, as well as the number of related headings in the index in which it falls, all have had some bearing upon the number of entries which can be found for it.

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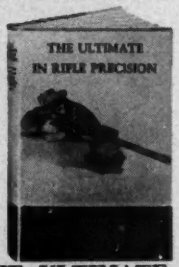

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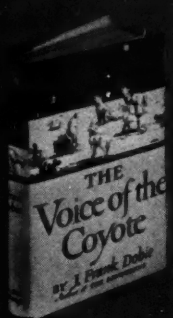

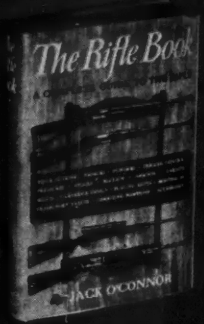

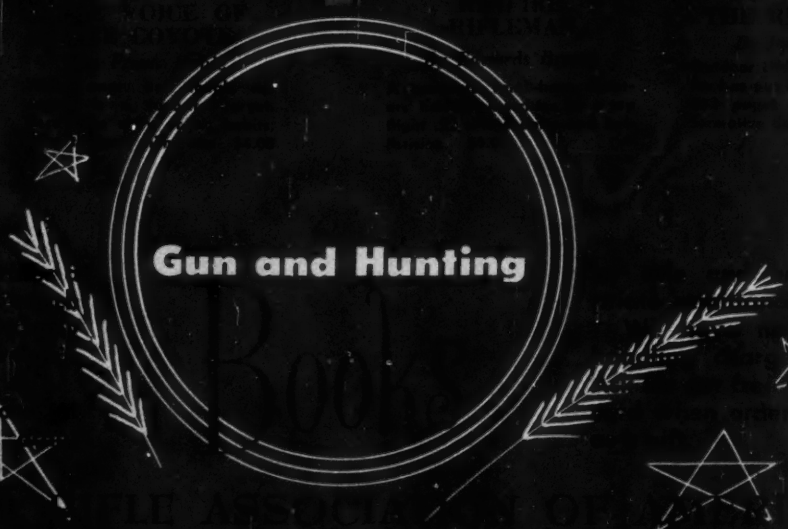

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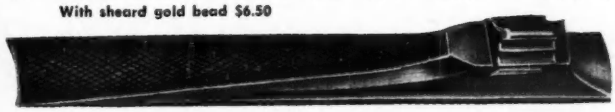

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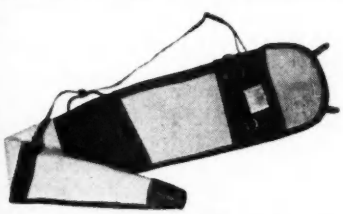

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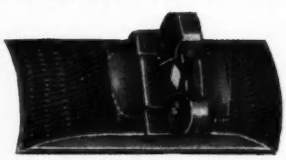

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30.06 M.C. late date	per 100	6.00
45 C.A. M.C. late date	per 100	4.00
25 auto	per 100	4.00
32 auto	per 100	5.00
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351 S.L.R.	per 100	8.50
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32 Win. S.L.	per 100	8.00
32 Remington	per 100	11.00
32 Win. Special	per 100	11.00
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Lyman Targetspot, SUPER, 12x15, 20X	90.00
Unertl Falcon, 2¾X	48.00
Unertl Varminter, 6X, 8X, 10X	75.00
Lyman Alaskan, 2½X	60.00
Lyman Challenger, 4X	85.00
B & L Binoculars, 6x30, 7x35	186.00
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B&L 2½ x 4X veriable	80.00
B&L Mounts W-70 Spr. M-98	25.00

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219 Zipper Western	(C)	$7.00
Western 32 Special	(C)	6.00
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22 Hornet, Winchester make	(C)	4.50

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.22 Caliber Sierra, 45, 50, 55 gr.	(C)	$2.75
.25 Cal. 60-87 100-120 gr	(C)	3.75
.30 Caliber Sierra, 150 gr. S.	(C)	4.50
.30 Caliber Speer, 110 gr.	(C)	4.25
.30 Caliber Speer, 150 gr., 180 gr.	(C)	4.50
7mm Speer 130 gr.		4.50
.280 cal. 160 gr.		4.50
8mm Speer, 125 gr., 170 gr., SP	(C)	4.50
270 Speer S.P.	(C)	4.25
30 cal. Rem. 150 H.P.	(C)	4.50

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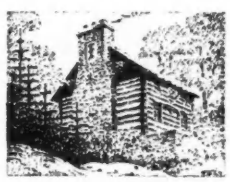

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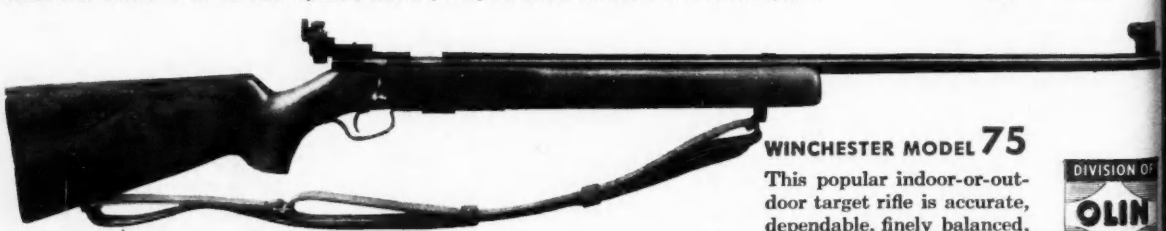

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